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# SONIC

## THE HEDGEHOG™



# Homecoming

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his smelly factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

THE VILLAGE OF KNOTHOLE...

LOOK, EVERYBODY! LOOK!

WHAT IS IT, AMY ROSE?

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NEVER MIND, CHILD--I SEE IT FOR MYSELF, BUT I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE IT!

EMERGING FROM THE GREAT OAK SLIDE--IT'S BUNNIE RABBIT, YOUNG MILES PROWER AND ANTOINE D'COOLETTE!

YES, FATHER, THEY'VE RETURNED SAFELY! THEY SOMEHOW ESCAPED DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S SPACE PLATFORM!\*

# REBEL WITHOUT A PAUSE

## Chapter One

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 FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST  
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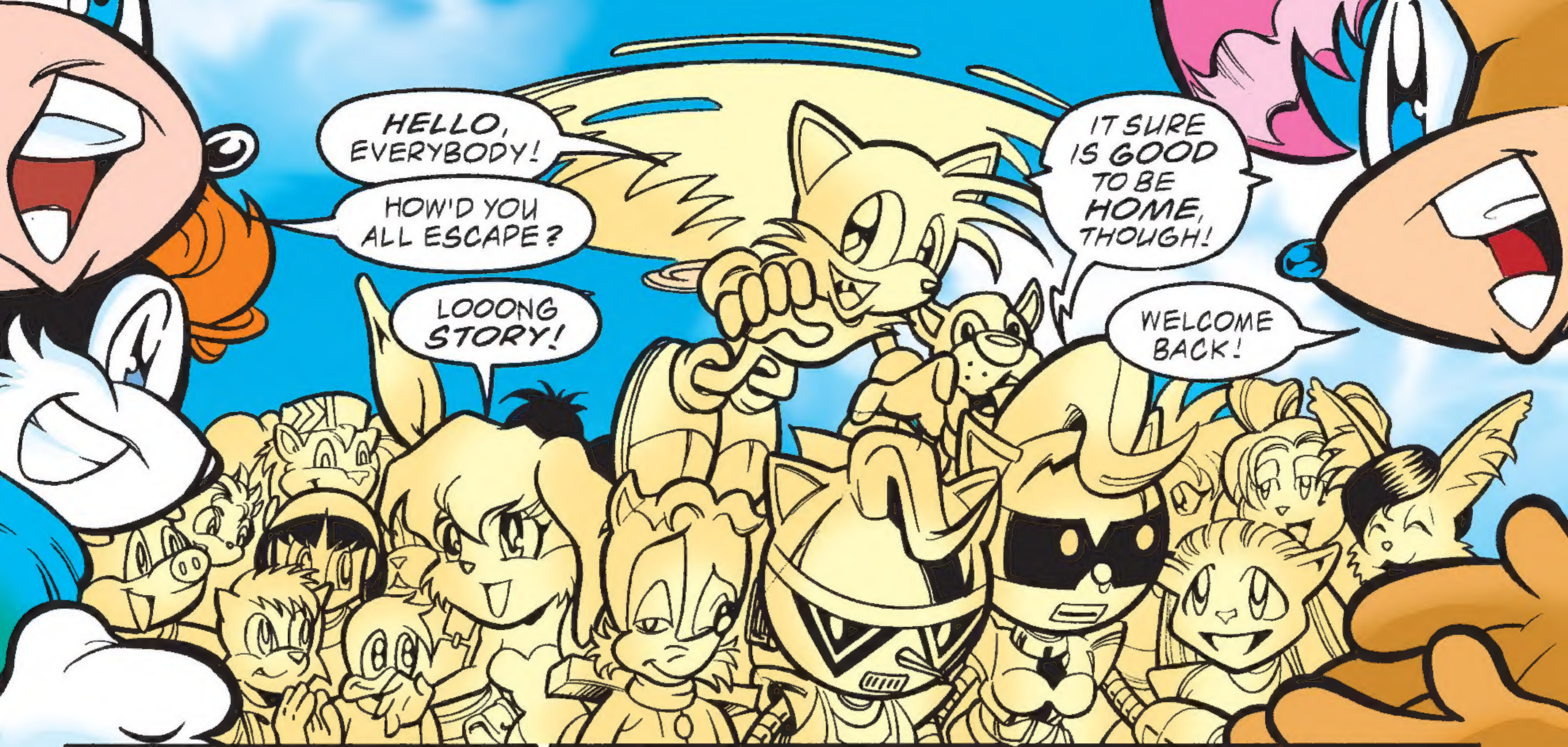
THIS IS JERAMIAH, HE IS THE GRANDSON OF THE GREAT STORYTELLER, KIRBY!

BUT LOOK, PRINCE ELIAS --THEY'VE ALSO BROUGHT SONIC'S PARENTS--AND WHO'S THAT WITH THEM?

YEEE-HA!

EEP!

\* They were held prisoner there in SONIC # 75.--JFG.



HELLO, EVERYBODY!  
HOW'D YOU ALL ESCAPE?  
LOOONG STORY!

IT SURE IS GOOD TO BE HOME, THOUGH!  
WELCOME BACK!

JULES... BERNIE... ROBOTNIK BRAGGED OF HOW HE'D REGAINED CONTROL OVER ALL ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS...\*

...BUT THE TWO OF YOU SOMEHOW SEEM TO BE STILL IN POSSESSION OF YOUR FREE WILL! HOW COULD THAT BE?

\* See ish #75.--JFG

IT'S SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO OUR ANNIVERSARY PRESENT, DOCTOR QUACK...

THESE WEDDING BANDS THAT SONIC GAVE US!

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT--IT'S JUST NOT SCIENTIFICALLY FEASIBLE!

SCIENCE DOESN'T MATTER WHERE THE POWER OF THE SUPER-EMERALD IS CONCERNED, FRIEND. IT WAS THAT SAME POWER...

...THAT ENABLED SIR CHARLES HEDGEHOG AND I TO FASHION THOSE WEDDING BANDS FROM PRE-EXISTING POWER RINGS.\*

\* See ish # 73.--JFG

WHAT ABOUT THE PRINCESS? WHERE'S SALLY--AND SONIC?

WELL, SIRE...  
...ZEY...  
...en...

KINDA HAD...  
...TO STAY...  
...IN ROBO-TROPOLIS...

AND COMPLETE...  
...A DANGEROUS...  
...MISSION.

OH, REALLY? ANOTHER DANGEROUS MISSION WITHOUT MY SAY-SO? PLEASE TELL ME, I'D LOVE TO HEAR ALL ABOUT IT...

**M**EANWHILE, IN THE SANDY EXPANSE OF DESERT THAT LIES BETWEEN ROBOTROPOLIS, A CITY RULED BY DOCTOR ROBOTNIK...

...AND THE GREAT FOREST, AN ENVIRONMENTAL PARADISE THAT MARKS THE WAY TO KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...

ARE YOU SURE, SAL?

I HOPE SO, SONIC! THE VIRUS THAT SNIVELY AND I PLANTED IN ROBOTNIK'S MASTER COMPUTER...\*

... SHOULD PREVENT HIM FROM EVER LEARNING OF KNOTHOLE'S HIDDEN LOCATION!

IF NOT, NOTHING WILL EVER STOP THAT FIEND AND HIS SHADOW-BOTS...

... FROM FINDING US OR THE OTHER MOBIANS WE RESCUED!\*\*

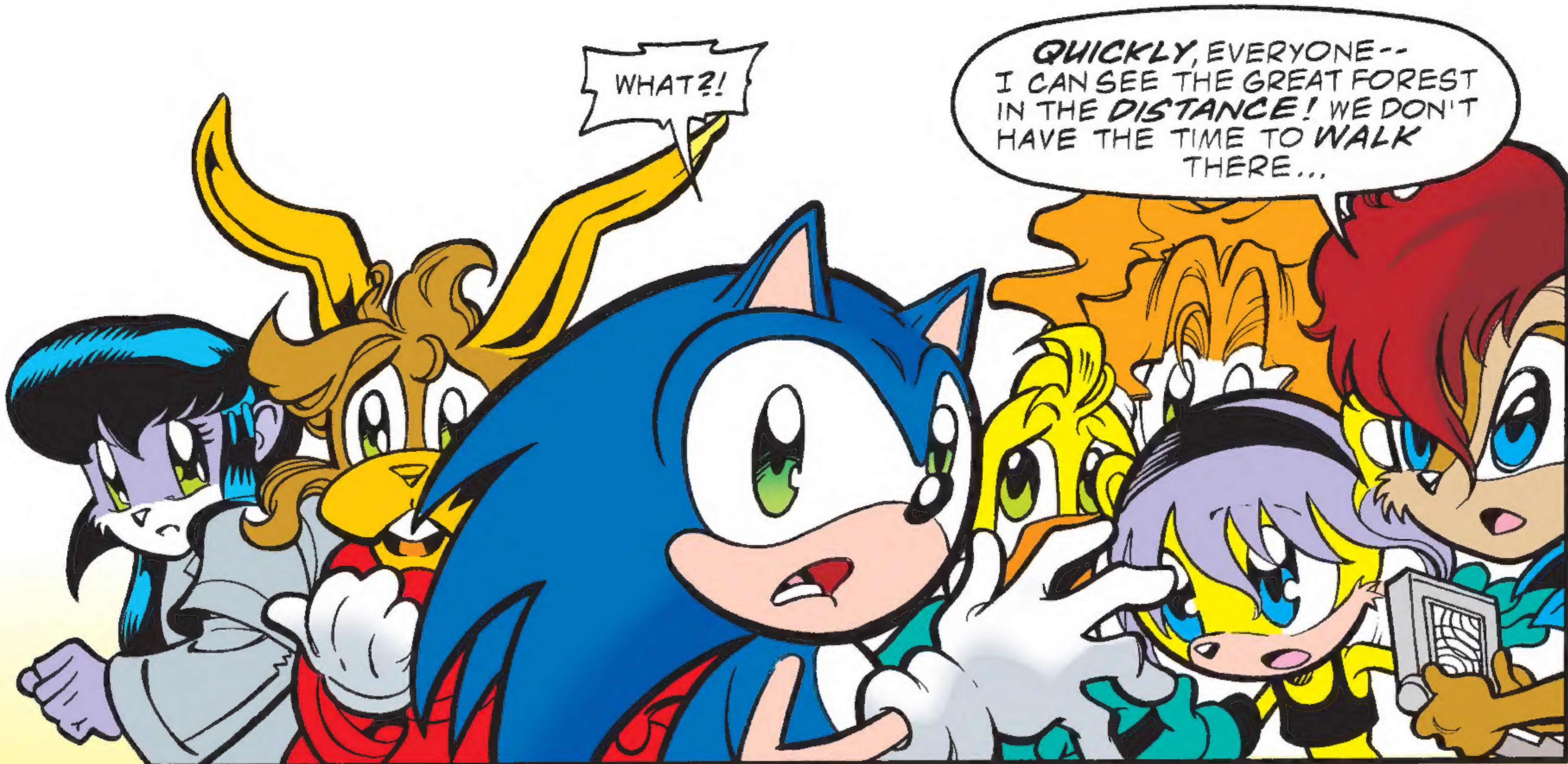
\* See last ish.  
\*\* Ditto.--JFG

WELL, THEN, THEY CAN GIVE IT THEIR BEST SHOT! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE WAITING TO--

Princess Sally--

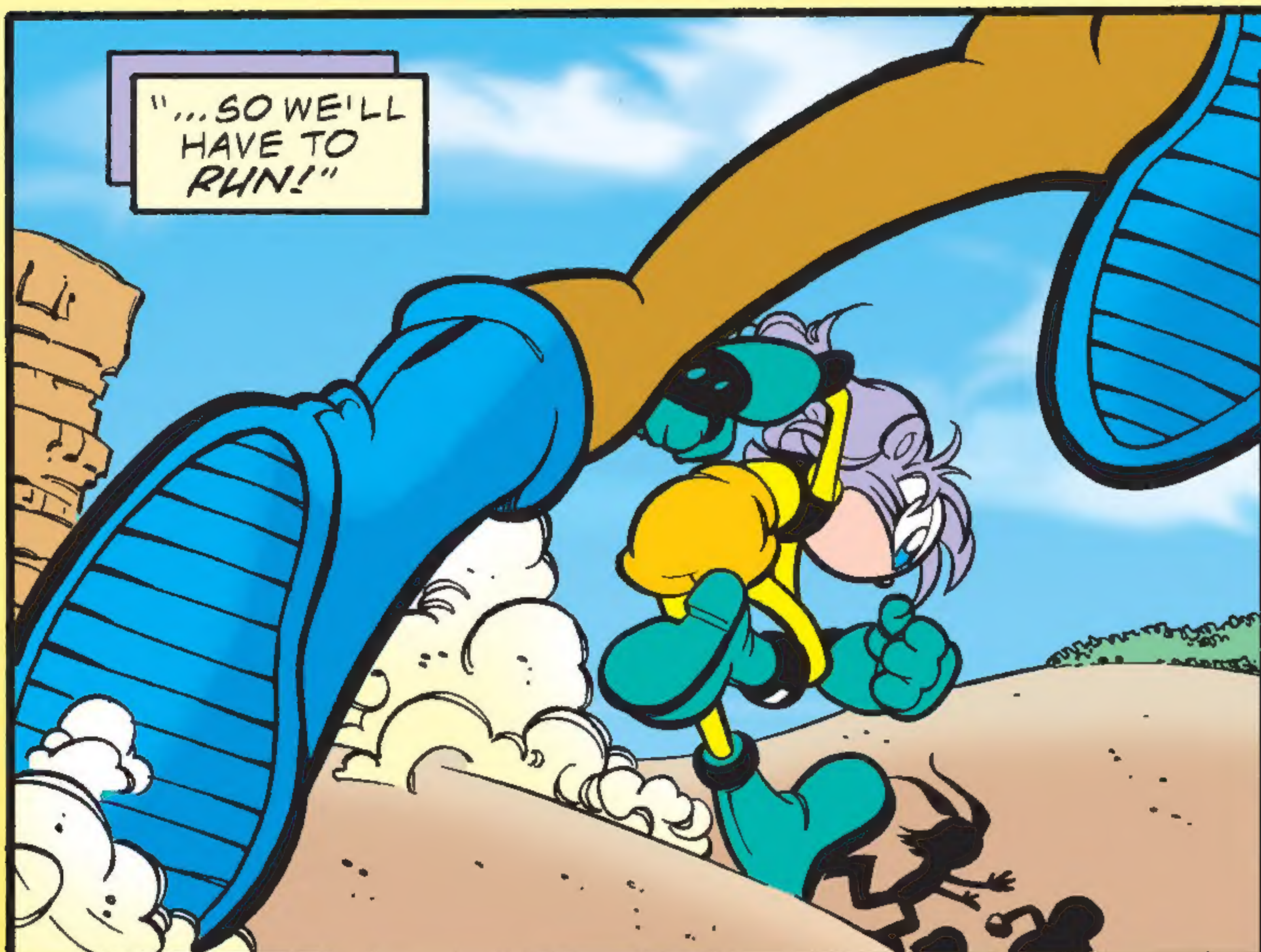
YES, NICOLE?

--my built-in sensors detect three Shadow-Bot-bearing vessels approaching from the west.

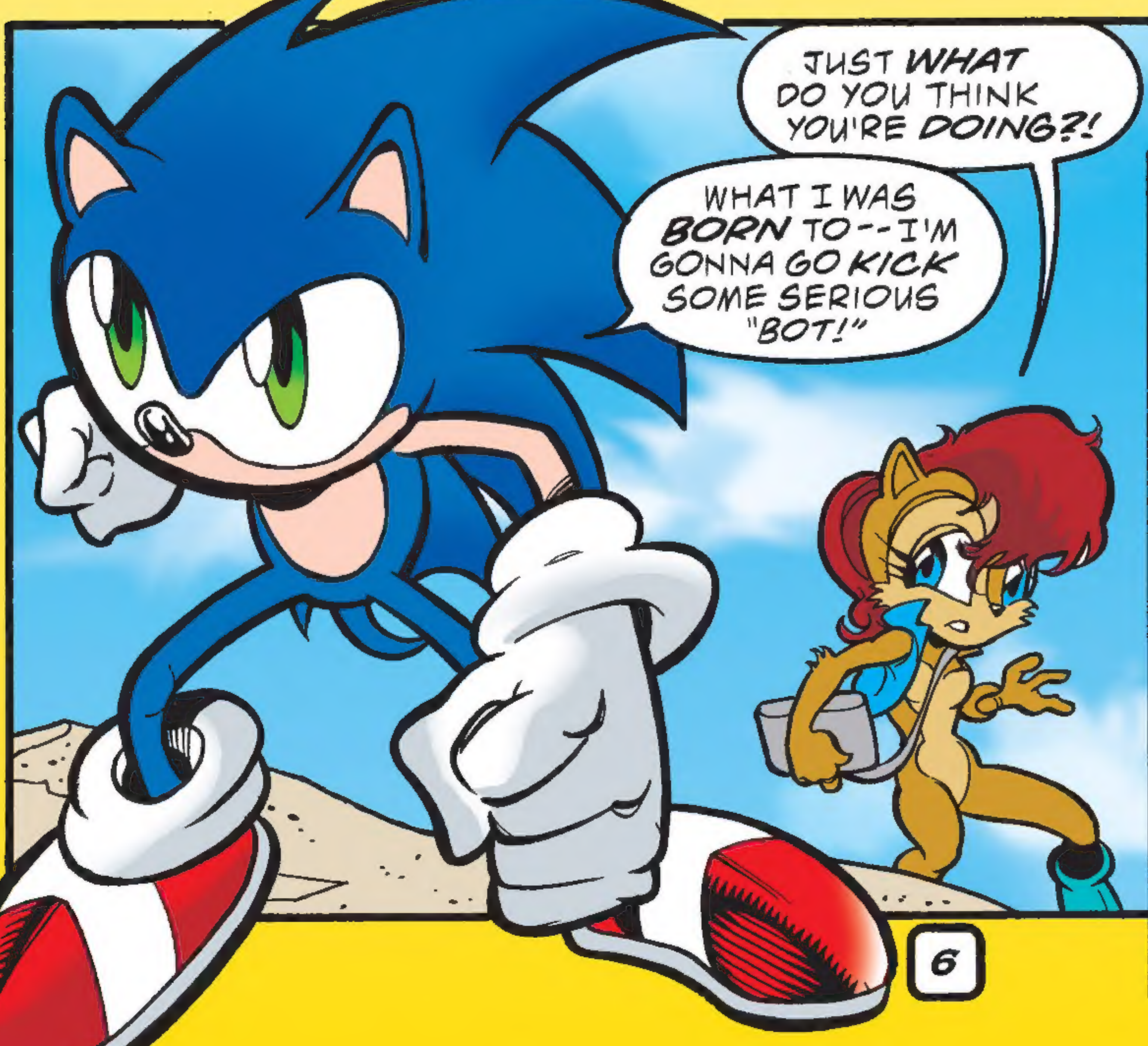
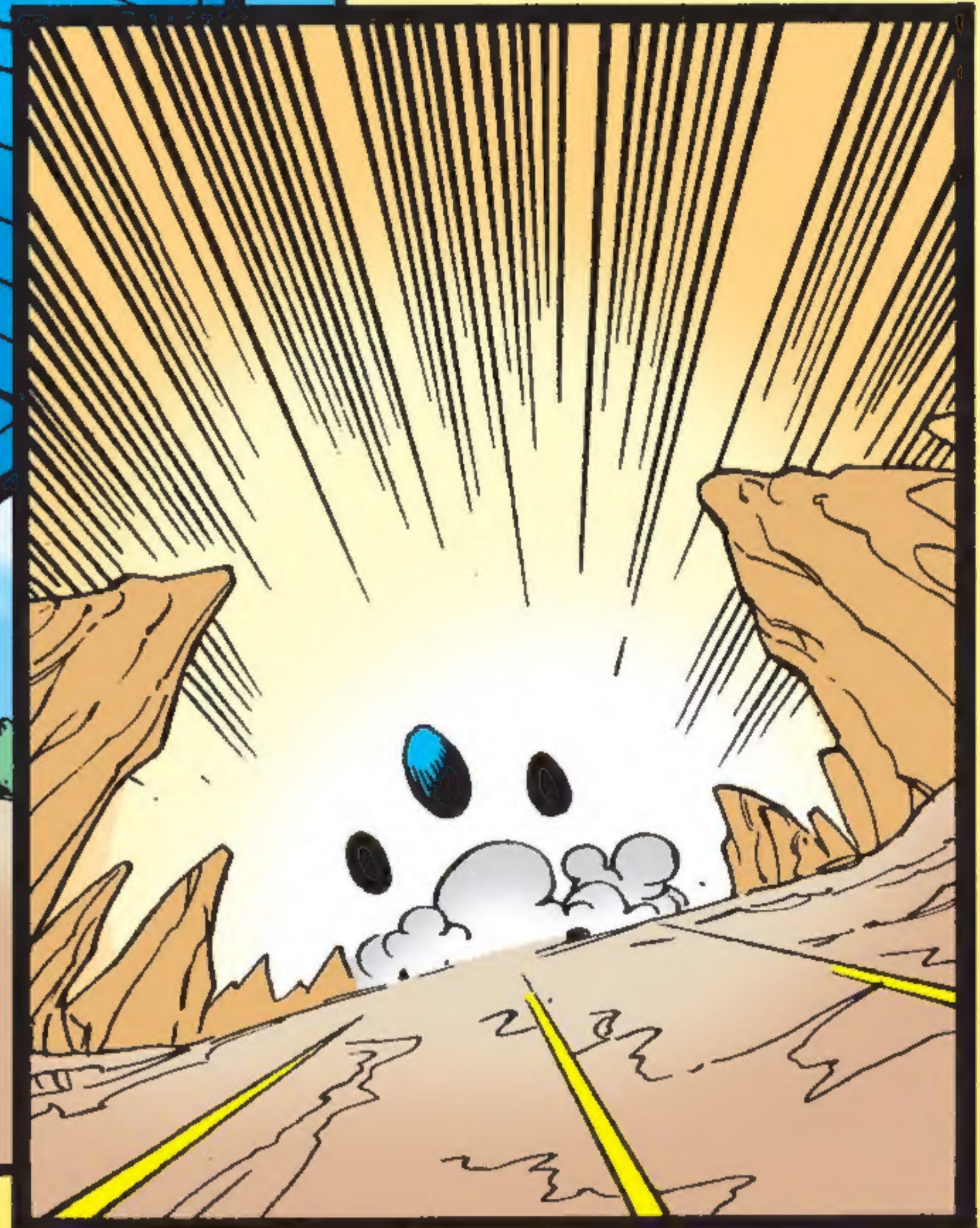


WHAT?!

QUICKLY, EVERYONE-- I CAN SEE THE GREAT FOREST IN THE DISTANCE! WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO WALK THERE...

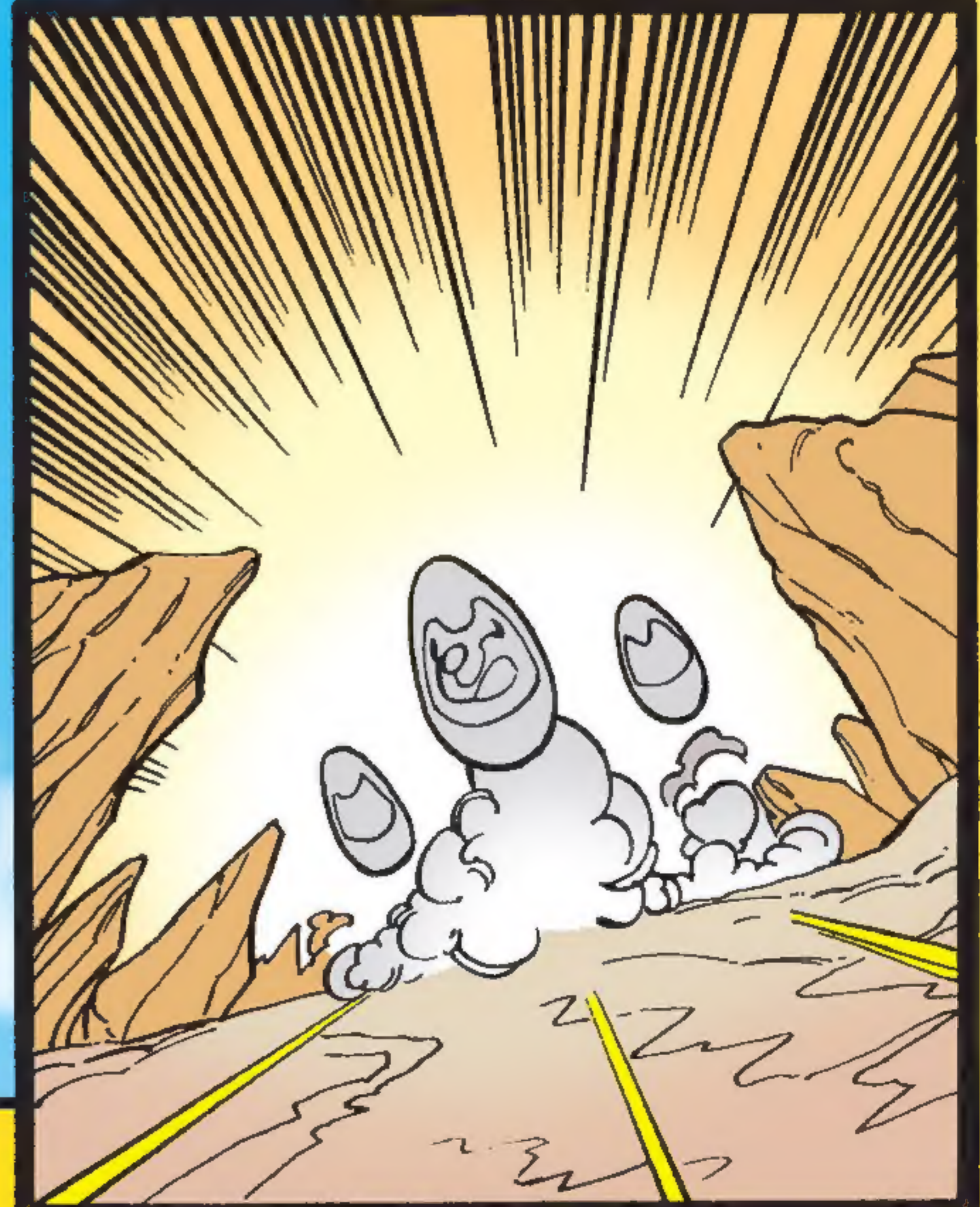


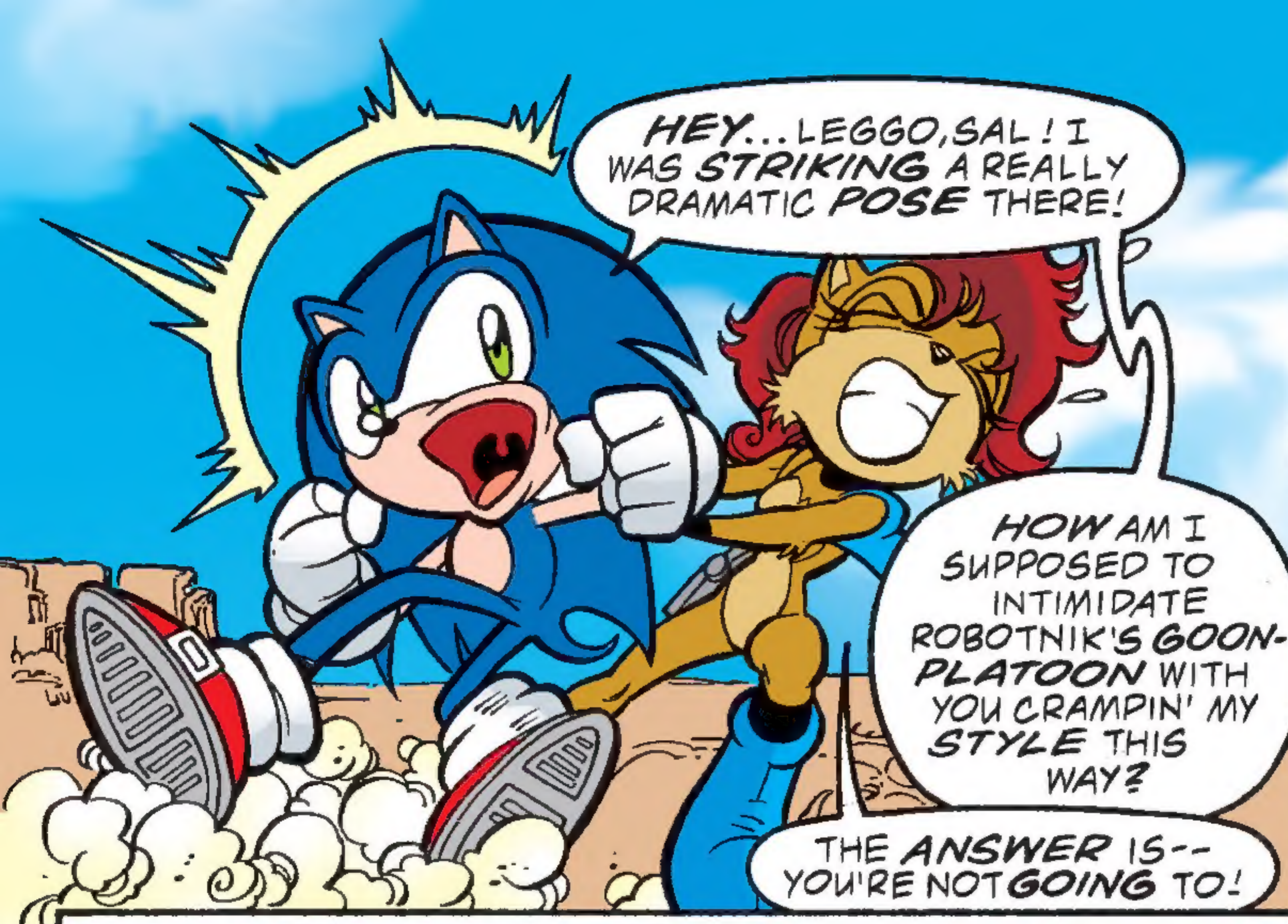
"...SO WE'LL HAVE TO RUN!"



JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

WHAT I WAS BORN TO-- I'M GONNA GO KICK SOME SERIOUS "BOT!"

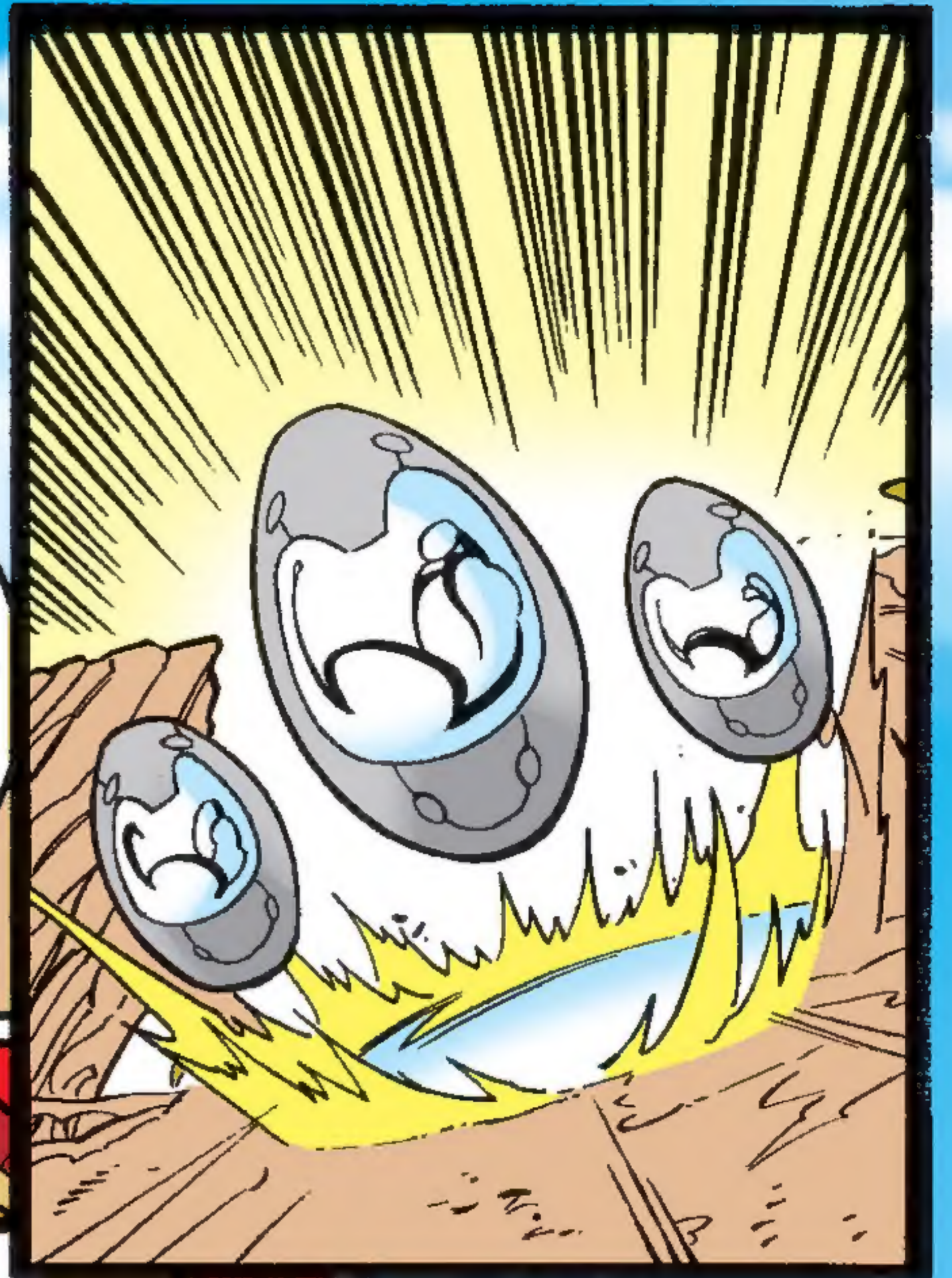




HEY... LEGGO, SAL! I WAS STRIKING A REALLY DRAMATIC POSE THERE!

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO INTIMIDATE ROBOTNIK'S GOON-PLATOON WITH YOU CRAMPIN' MY STYLE THIS WAY?

THE ANSWER IS-- YOU'RE NOT GOING TO!

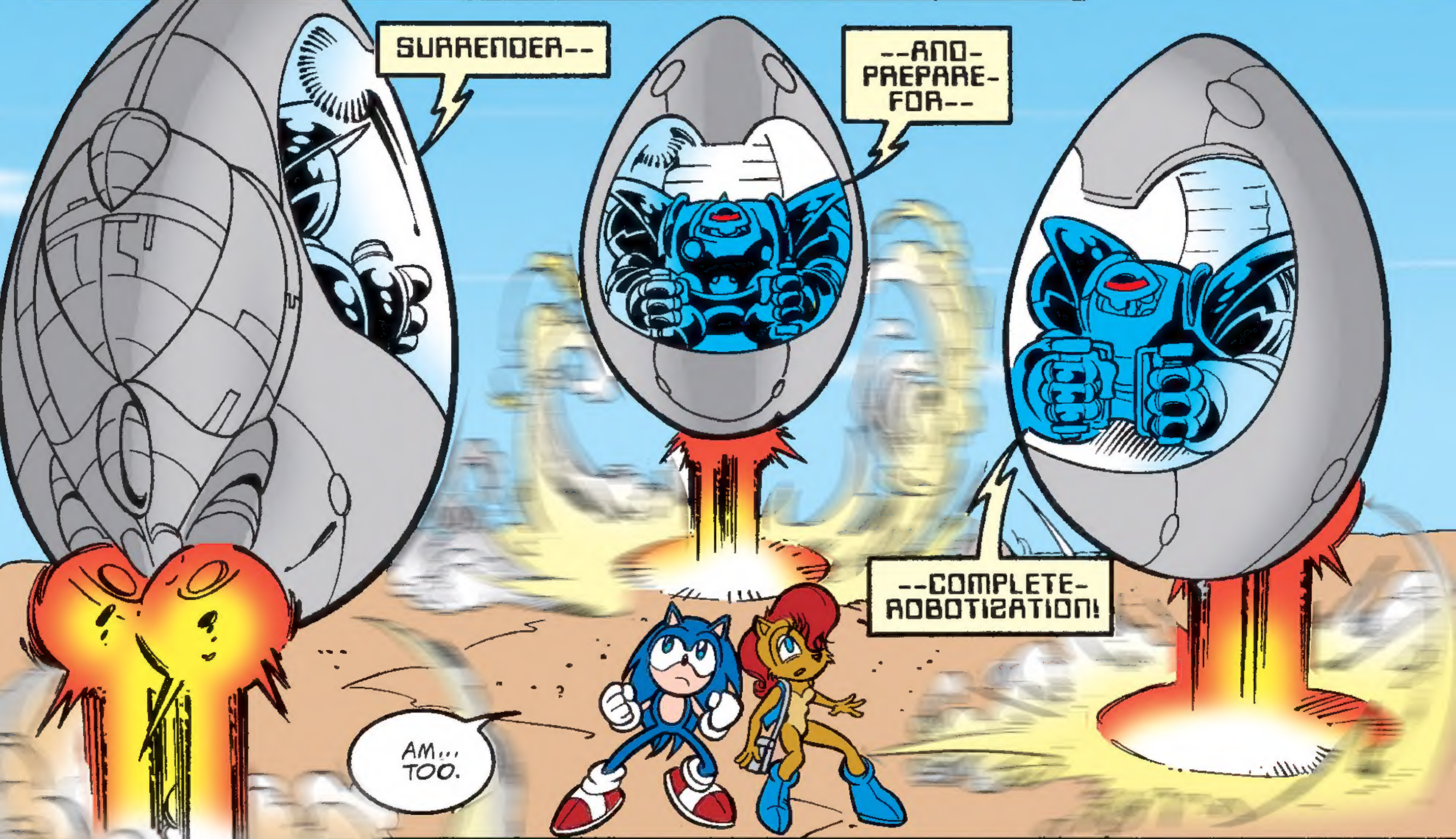


AM TOO!

ARE NOT!

AM TOO!

ARE NOT!

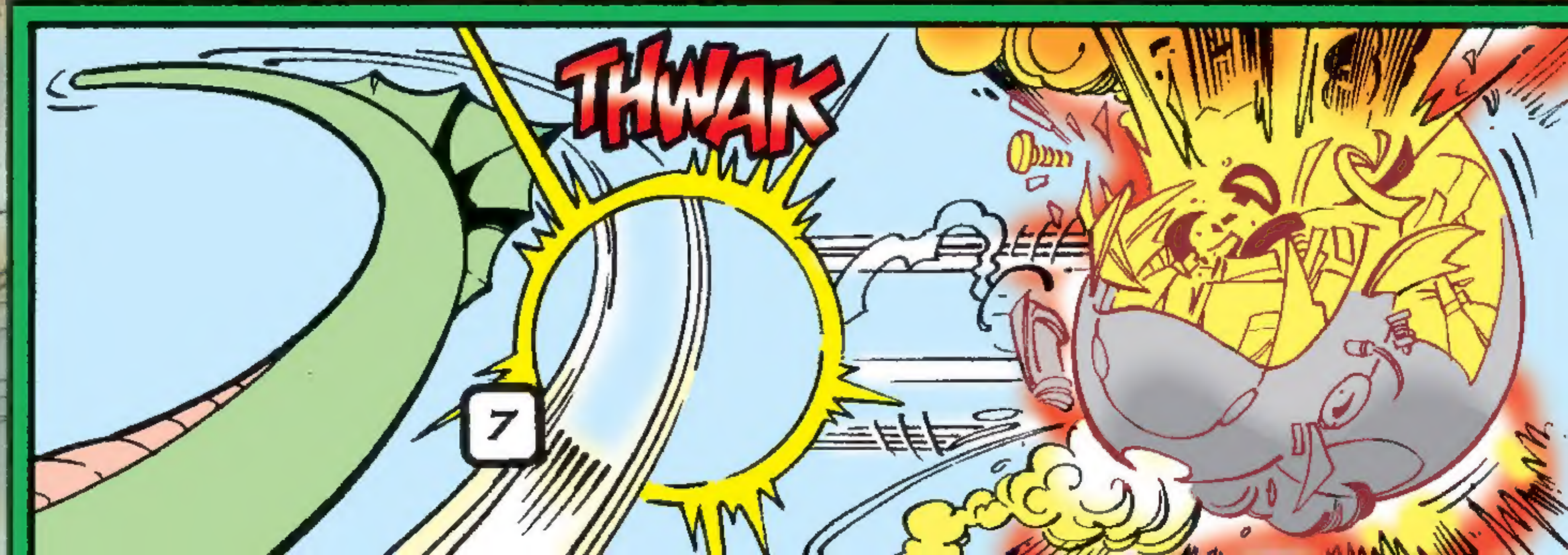


SURRENDER--

--AND-  
PREPARE-  
FOR--

--COMPLETE-  
ROBOTIZATION!

AM...  
TOO.



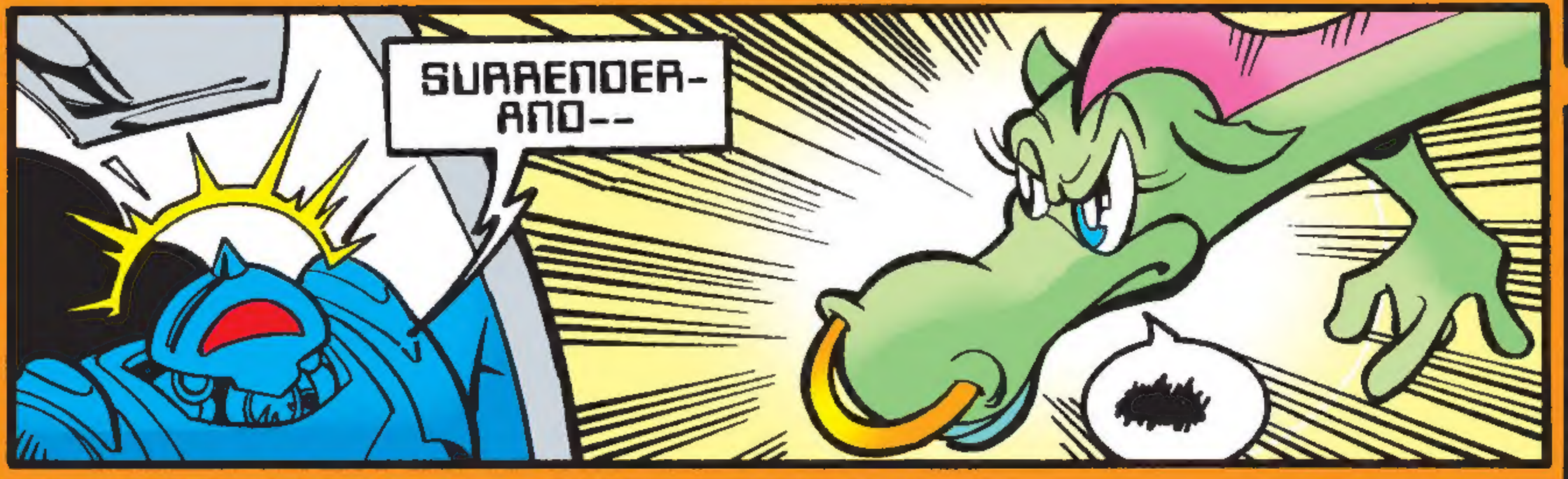
LOOK! IT'S DULCY THE DRAGON...

...AND SHE, LIKE, COMPLETELY **TOTALED** TWO OF THOSE SHADOW-BOTS!

WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR, SONIC?



SURRENDER-- AND--



**BWAHAHAHAHA**

**FWZIP**

I'M SURE THAT'S ONE BOT THAT'LL THINK **TWICE** ABOUT TAILING US AGAIN!

WAY TO GO, DULCE!

THANKS! I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU'RE BOTH BACK FROM **ORBIT**--NEED A LIFT?





**I**NTERLUDE **0**NE.

JUST BEYOND THE  
RIM OF THE GALAXY,  
THERE IS A BURST OF  
BLINDING ENERGY...

...AND TWIN VESSELS  
EMERGE FROM THE  
MYSTERIOUS FOLDS OF  
HYPER-SPACE.

WHENCE DID THESE  
SPACECRAFTS JOURNEY?

WHAT COURSE HAS  
BEEN PLOTTED ACROSS  
THIS VAST STAR SYSTEM?

AND MORE  
IMPORTANTLY...  
WHY?

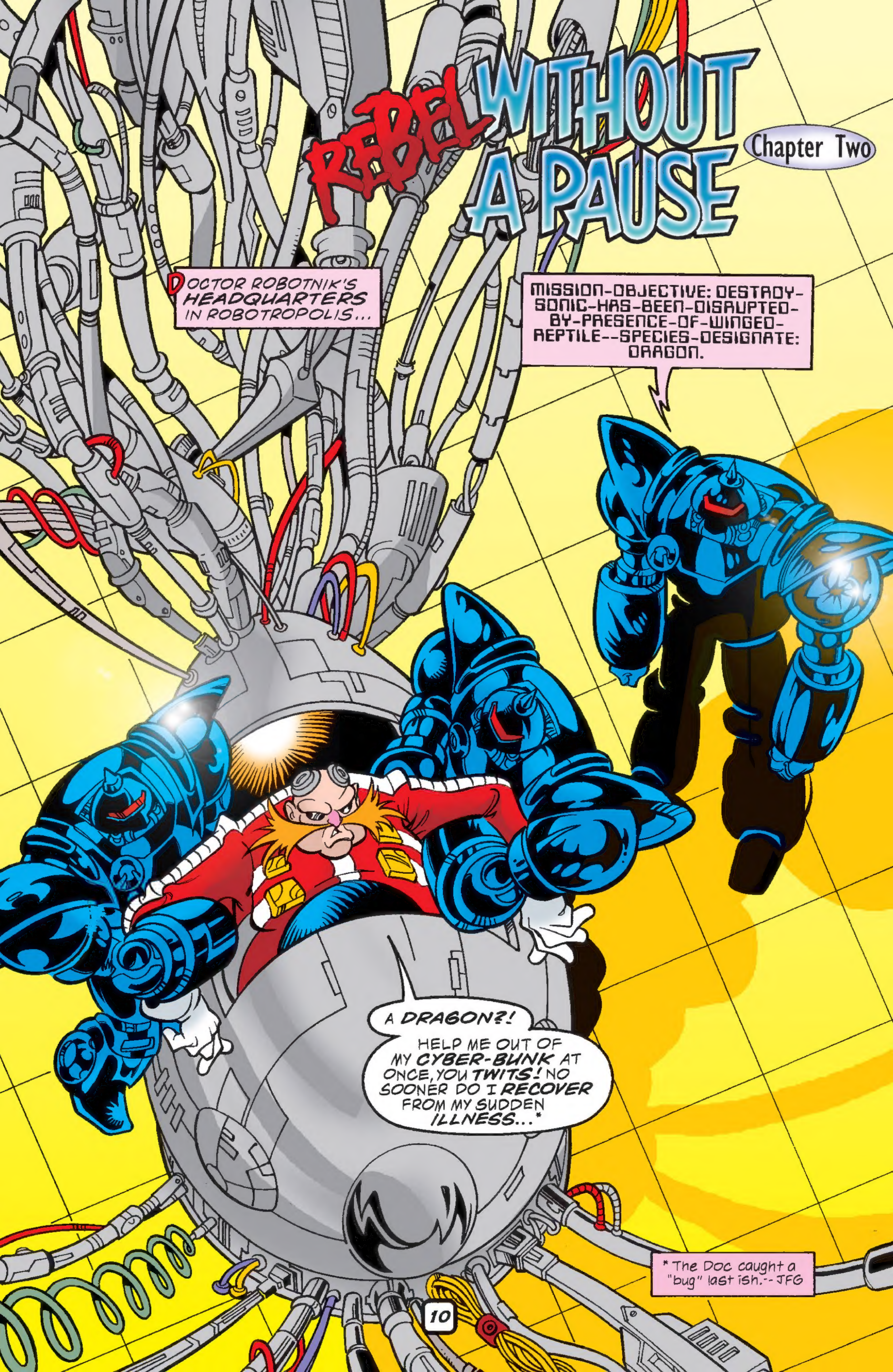
**REBEL**

# WITHOUT A PAUSE

Chapter Two

DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS IN ROBOTROPOLIS...

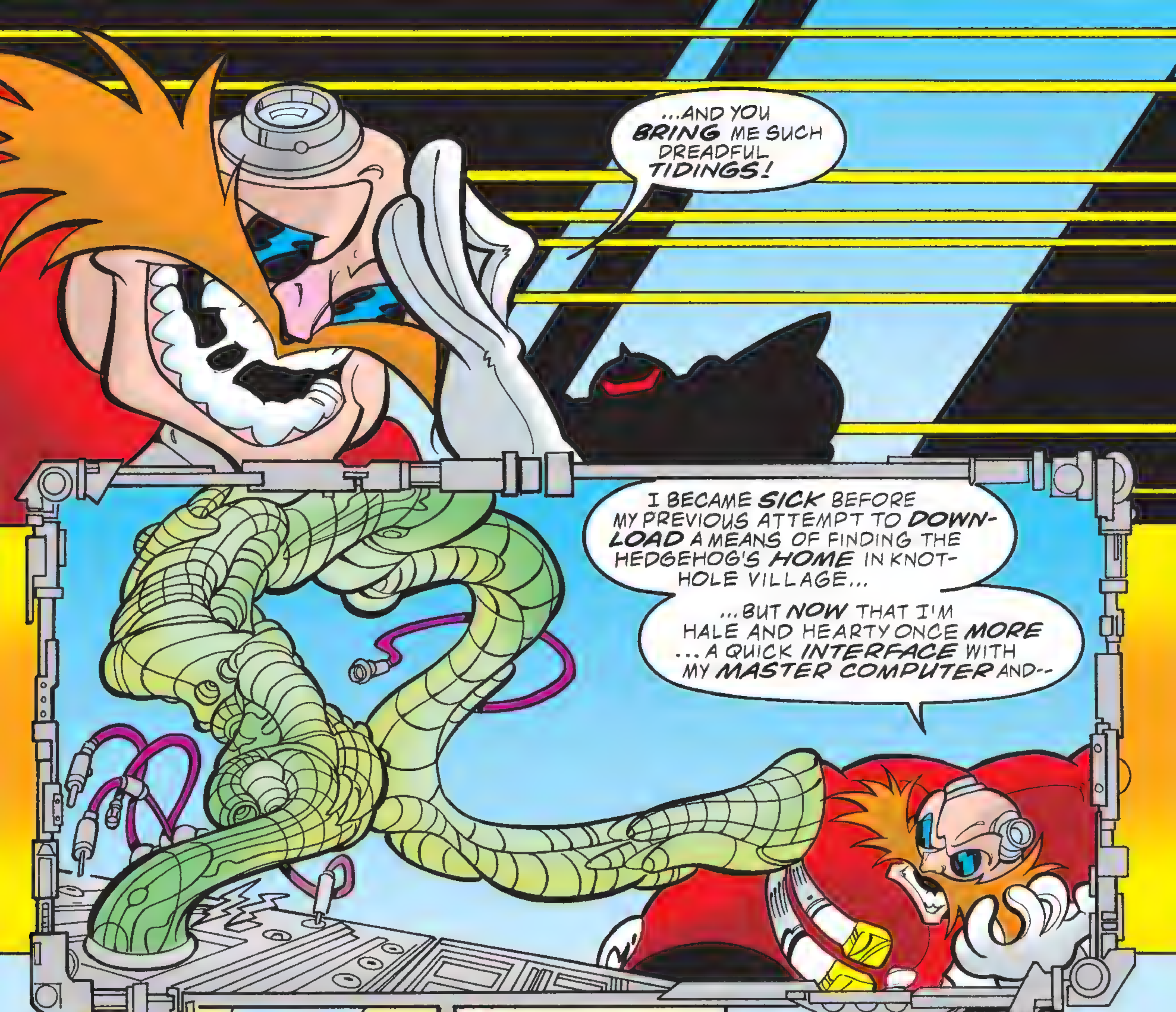
MISSION-OBJECTIVE: DESTROY-SONIC-HAS-BEEN-DISRUPTED-BY-PRESENCE-OF-WINGED-REPTILE--SPECIES-DESIGNATE: DRAGON.



A DRAGON?!

HELP ME OUT OF MY CYBER-BUNK AT ONCE, YOU TWITS! NO SOONER DO I RECOVER FROM MY SUDDEN ILLNESS...\*

\* The Doc caught a "bug" last ish.--JFG



...AND YOU BRING ME SUCH DREADFUL TIDINGS!

I BECAME *SICK* BEFORE MY PREVIOUS ATTEMPT TO *DOWNLOAD* A MEANS OF FINDING THE HEDGEHOG'S HOME IN KNOT-HOLE VILLAGE...

...BUT NOW THAT I'M HALE AND HEARTY ONCE MORE ... A QUICK *INTERFACE* WITH MY *MASTER COMPUTER* AND--



**K**NOTHOLE VILLAGE...

B-BUT YOUR HEINY--EET WAS SONIC WHO UNCOVERED ROBOTNEEK'S SCHEME!

AND IF'N SONIC DIDN'T DISOBEY YOUR ORDUHS, HIS FOLKS'D BE MINDLESS SLAYES!

YEAH, AND--



ENOUGH!

I'VE HEARD ALL THAT I NEED TO REGARDING SONIC, THANK YOU...

THE SKY ABOVE THE GREAT FOREST...

HOLD ON TIGHT, EVERYONE-- I'M ABOUT TO TOUCH DOWN!

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A ROUGH TIME WITH MY LANDINGS, BUT I'VE GOT TO TRY AND MAKE THIS ONE...

WAY TO GO, DULCE! I--

QUIET, SONIC-- SHE'S NOT FINISHED YET, SO DON'T BREAK HER CONCENTRATION!

... PERFECT!

HERE YOU ARE...

...AND HERE I GO!

ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY... THE GREAT OAK SLIDE AWAITS, AND SO DOES...

BYE, DULCE... AND THANKS!



"...KNOTHOLE!"

LOOK!

THEY'VE ARRIVED AT LAST!

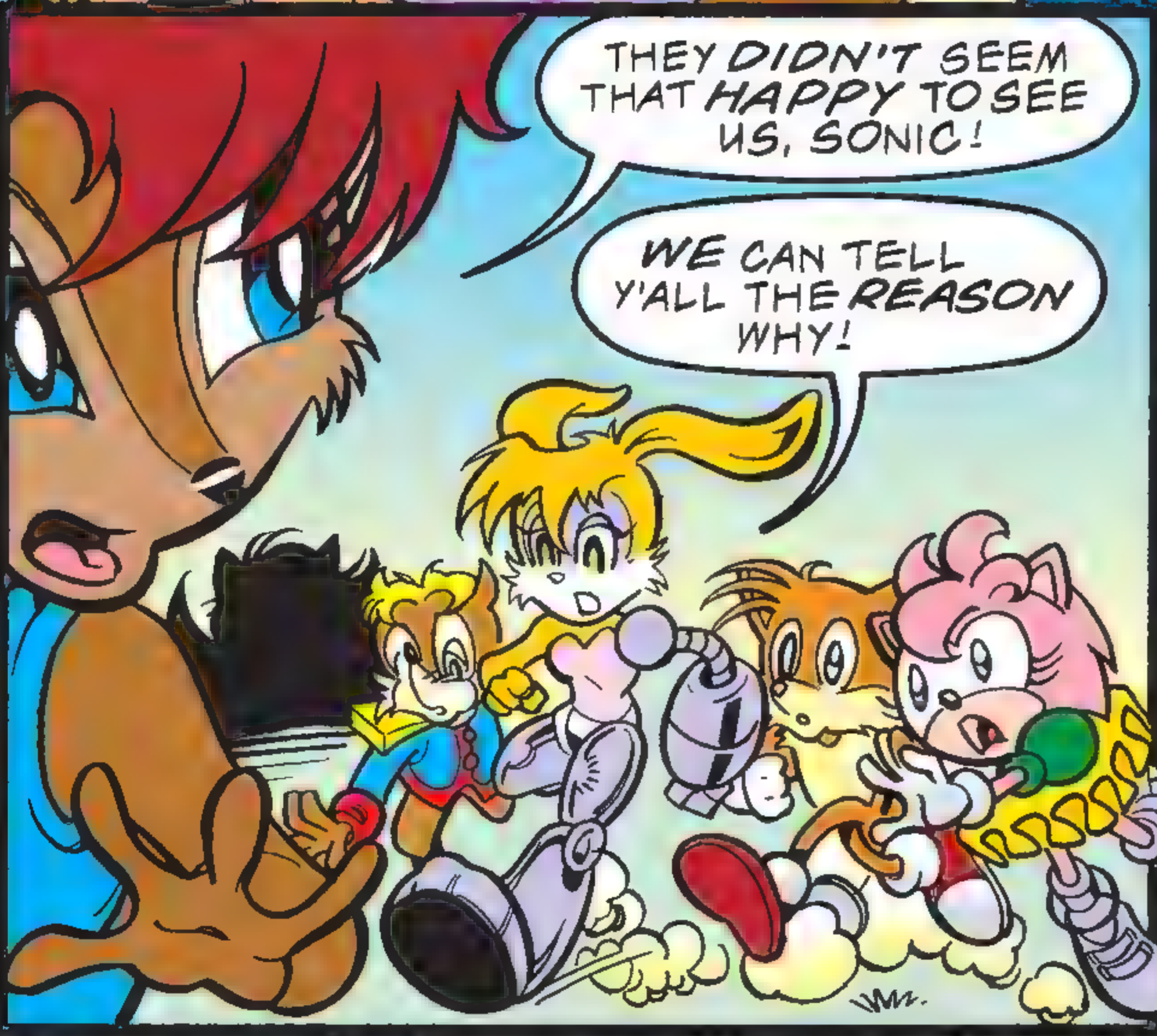


HELLO, CITIZENS!

WE'RE HERE, TOO!

:-GASP:-

:-GASP:-

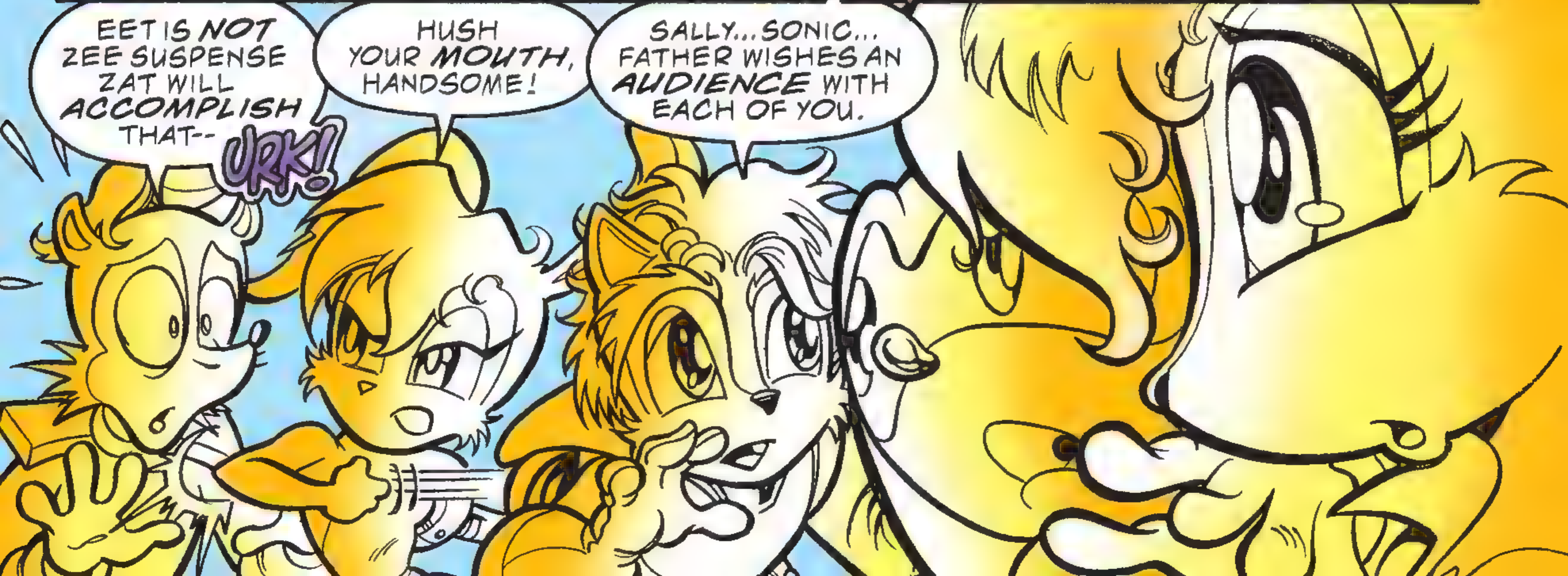


THEY DIDN'T SEEM THAT HAPPY TO SEE US, SONIC!

WE CAN TELL Y'ALL THE REASON WHY!



GO FOR IT, BUN--THE SUSPENSE IS KILLIN' ME!



EET IS NOT ZEE SUSPENSE ZAT WILL ACCOMPLISH THAT--

urk!

HUSH YOUR MOUTH, HANDSOME!

SALLY... SONIC... FATHER WISHES AN AUDIENCE WITH EACH OF YOU.

MINUTES  
LATER...

ANY CHANGE  
IN QUEEN ALICIA'S  
CONDITION, DOCTOR  
QUACK?

NO, SIRE,  
BUT I FINALLY  
HAVE A THEORY  
AS TO WHAT  
COULD BE  
WRONG  
WITH--

SALLY?

DAD?

OH, MY LITTLE ACORN  
... I THOUGHT YOU  
WERE... WERE...

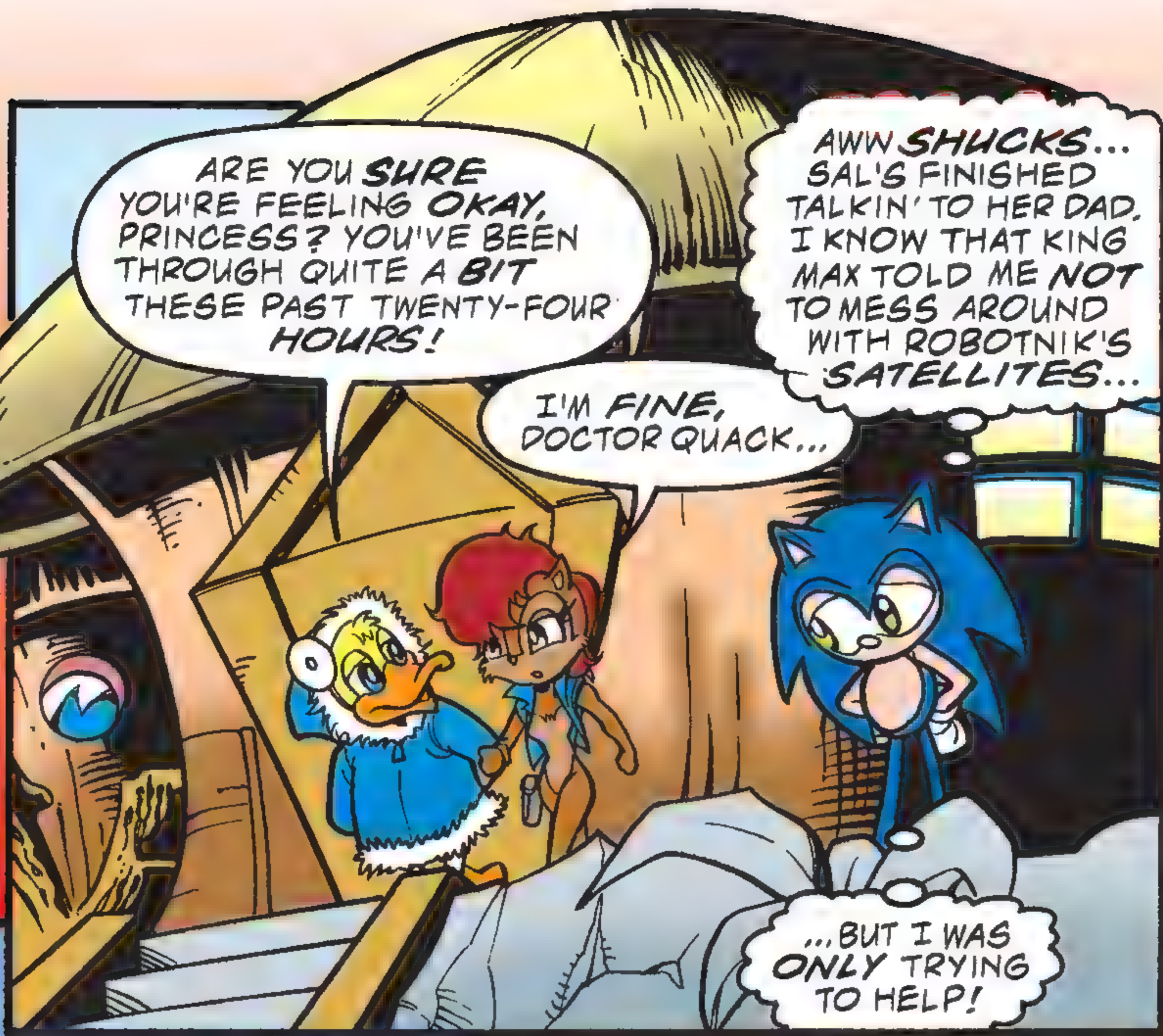
I'M SORRY, DADDY  
... PLEASE DON'T  
sniffle = BE ANGRY...

I'M JUST GLAD  
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT,  
SWEETHEART...

AND MOM?  
IS SHE ALL  
RIGHT,  
TOO?

FOR  
NOW SHE  
IS...

...FOR  
NOW.



ARE YOU **SHRE** YOU'RE FEELING **OKAY**, PRINCESS? YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH QUITE A **BIT** THESE PAST TWENTY-FOUR **HOURS!**

I'M **FINE**, DOCTOR **QUACK...**

AWW **SHUCKS...** SAL'S FINISHED TALKIN' TO HER DAD, I KNOW THAT KING MAX TOLD ME **NOT** TO MESS AROUND WITH ROBOTNIK'S **SATELLITES...**

...BUT I WAS **ONLY** TRYING TO HELP!

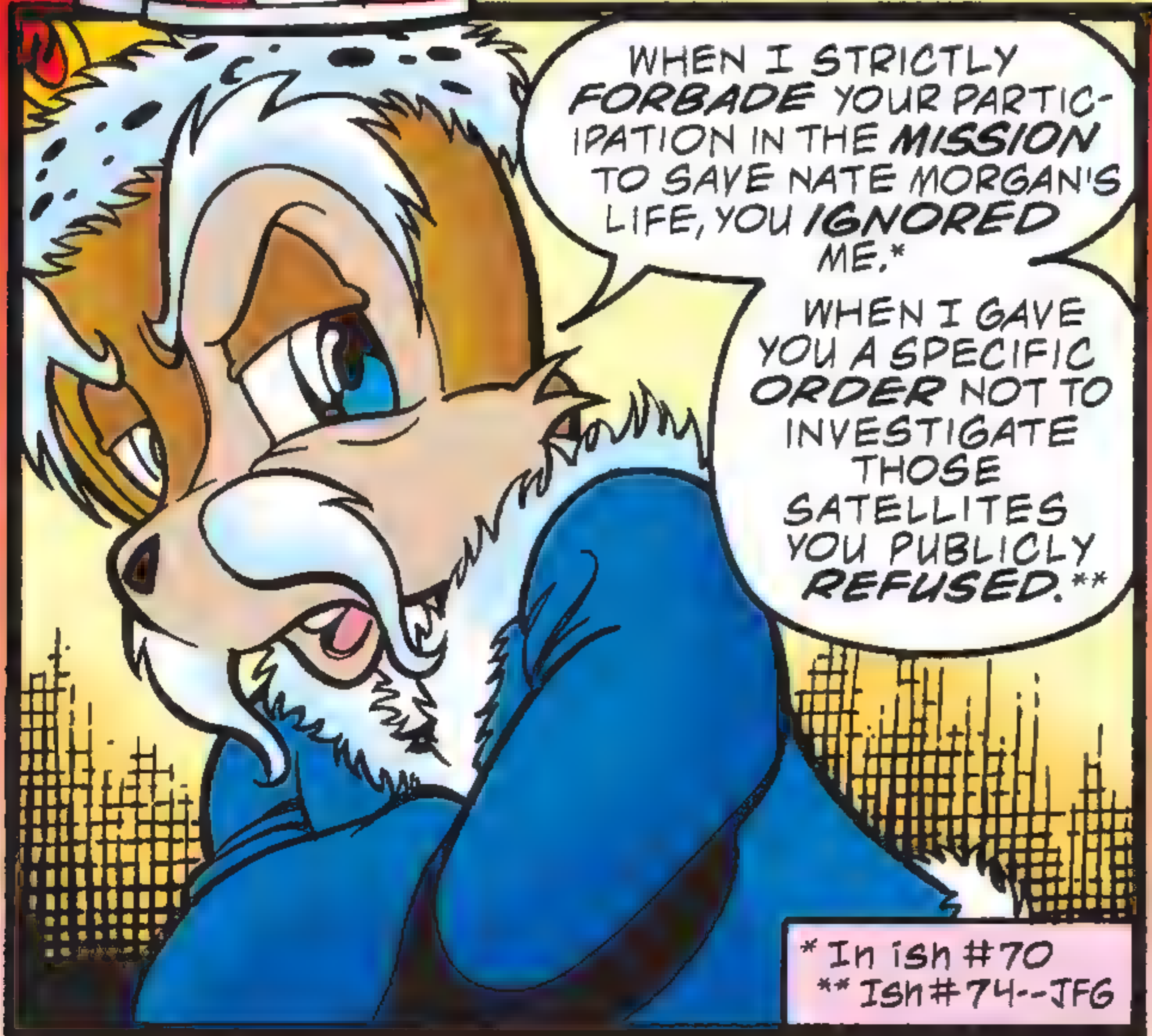


Uhh...HI, YOUR...UMM... HIGHNESS. I...WELL... LIKE...



NOT ANOTHER **WORD** UNTIL I'VE HAD MY **SAY**.

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG ...SINCE YOU RETURNED TO THE **KINGDOM OF ACORN**, YOU HAVEN'T LISTENED TO MY **ORDERS** AT ALL.



WHEN I STRICTLY **FORBADE** YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE **MISSION** TO SAVE NATE MORGAN'S LIFE, YOU **IGNORED** ME.\*

WHEN I GAVE YOU A SPECIFIC **ORDER** NOT TO INVESTIGATE THOSE **SATELLITES** YOU PUBLICLY **REFUSED**.\*\*

\* In ish #70  
\*\* Ish#74--JFG



**SOMEHOW** YOU MANAGED TO **DISOBEY** ME ON BOTH OCCASIONS AND...



...I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW TO THANK YOU FOR IT! I ADMIRE SOMEONE WHO STANDS UP FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN, LAD--IT TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE.

PERHAPS I WAS TOO HASTY IN MY JUDGMENT OF YOUR ACTIONS. YOUR STYLE IS RECKLESS BUT IT HAS ITS MERITS, I SUPPOSE...

CAN YOU ACCEPT MY ROYAL APOLOGY FOR NOT TRUSTING IN YOU?



DON'T SWEAT IT, SIRE... BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. IF YOU REALLY WEREN'T MAD AT ME, WHY'D YOU MAKE EVERYBODY THINK YOU WERE?

IT WOULDN'T DO FOR A GENERAL TO PUBLICLY APOLOGIZE TO A DISOBEDIENT SOLDIER, EVEN IF THAT SOLDIER WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN WINNING THE WAR.



I CAN TOTALLY RELATE TO THAT, SIR-- IT'S AN 'EGO' THING!

PRETTY MUCH...

Y'KNOW... I THINK THIS COULD BE THE START OF A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP!



OTHERWISE, HOW WOULD THE GENERAL THEN APPEAR TO ALL THE OTHER SOLDIERS IN HIS COMMAND?



THE END

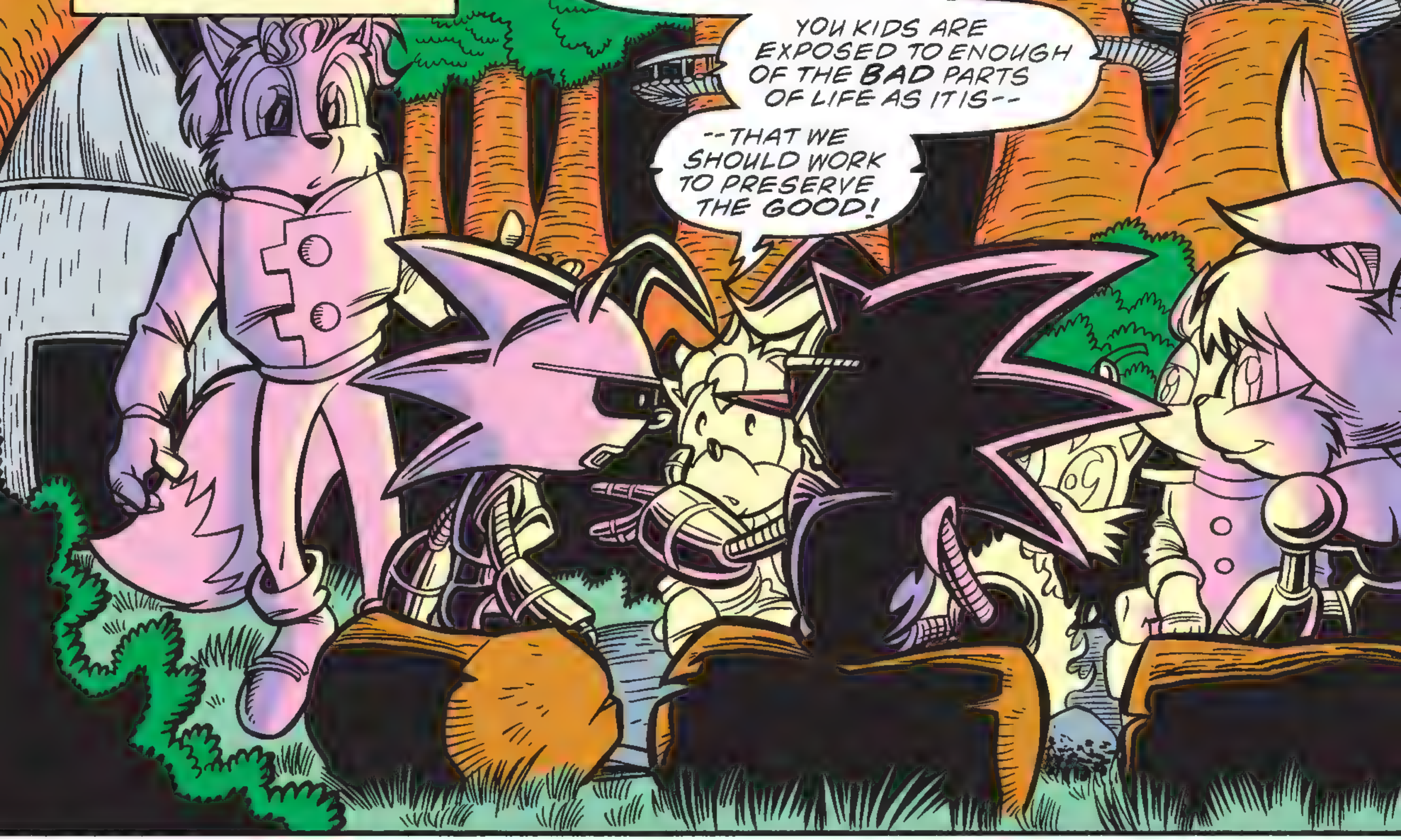


**A** NOTHER DAY DRAWS TO A CLOSE IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WHERE WE FIND A GATHERING AROUND A CAMPFIRE...

--THOSE BOOKS ARE PART OF OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE AND HOPEFULLY WE'LL BE ABLE TO RETRIEVE THEM VERY SOON!

YOU KIDS ARE EXPOSED TO ENOUGH OF THE BAD PARTS OF LIFE AS IT IS--

--THAT WE SHOULD WORK TO PRESERVE THE GOOD!



SOUNDS LIKE AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION! MIND IF I JOIN IN?

AT THE RISK OF SOUNDING LIKE A DUNCE--

-- JUST WHAT IS IT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT?

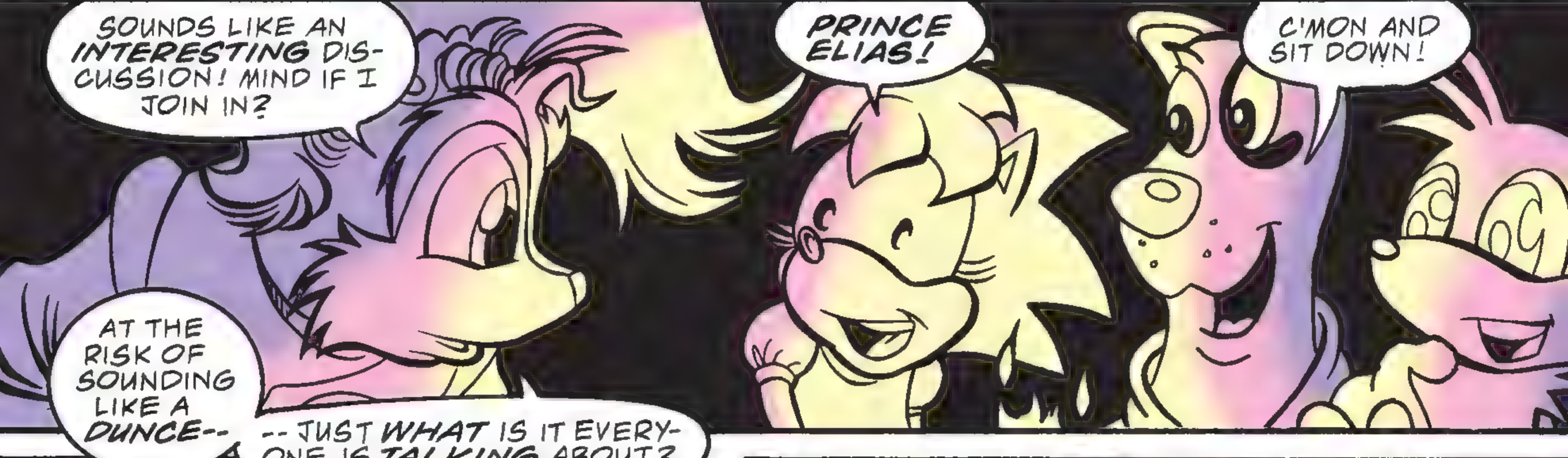
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE BOOKS WE LEFT BACK AT THE LIBRARY!\*

ESPECIALLY THE ONES JERAMIAH'S GRANDFATHER, KIRBY, WROTE ABOUT OUR HISTORY!

\*see last issue. - Justin

PRINCE ELIAS!

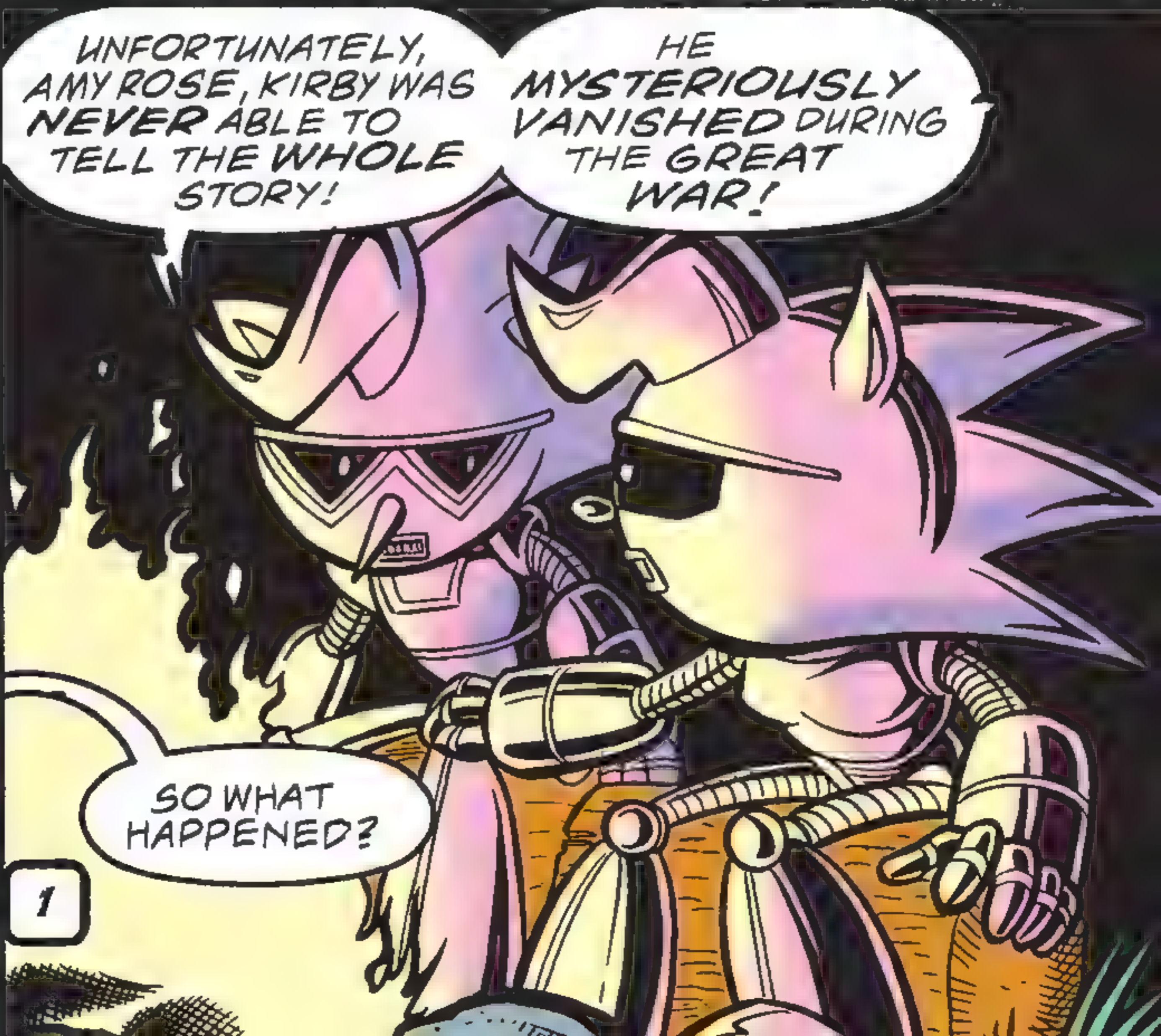
C'MON AND SIT DOWN!



UNFORTUNATELY, AMY ROSE, KIRBY WAS NEVER ABLE TO TELL THE WHOLE STORY!

HE MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED DURING THE GREAT WAR!

SO WHAT HAPPENED?



YOU TELL IT, BERNIE! YOU LIVED THROUGH MORE OF IT THAN I DID!

"LIVED?"

NOT EVERYTHING IS RECORDED FOR HISTORY'S PROSTERITY, ELIAS!

"WE WERE ON A MISSION TO DISCOVER WHAT HAD BECOME OF KIRBY! YOUR FATHER, KING ACORN, WAS AFRAID THE ENEMY HAD GOTTEN TO HIM!"

UNGH!

"FOLLOWING A LEAD THAT KIRBY HAD BEEN TAKEN TO THEIR CITY, WE ENCOUNTERED AN OVERLANDER AND GAVE CHASE!"

"IN OUR HASTE TO LEARN WHAT THE OVERLANDER KNEW, WE GOT CARELESS..."

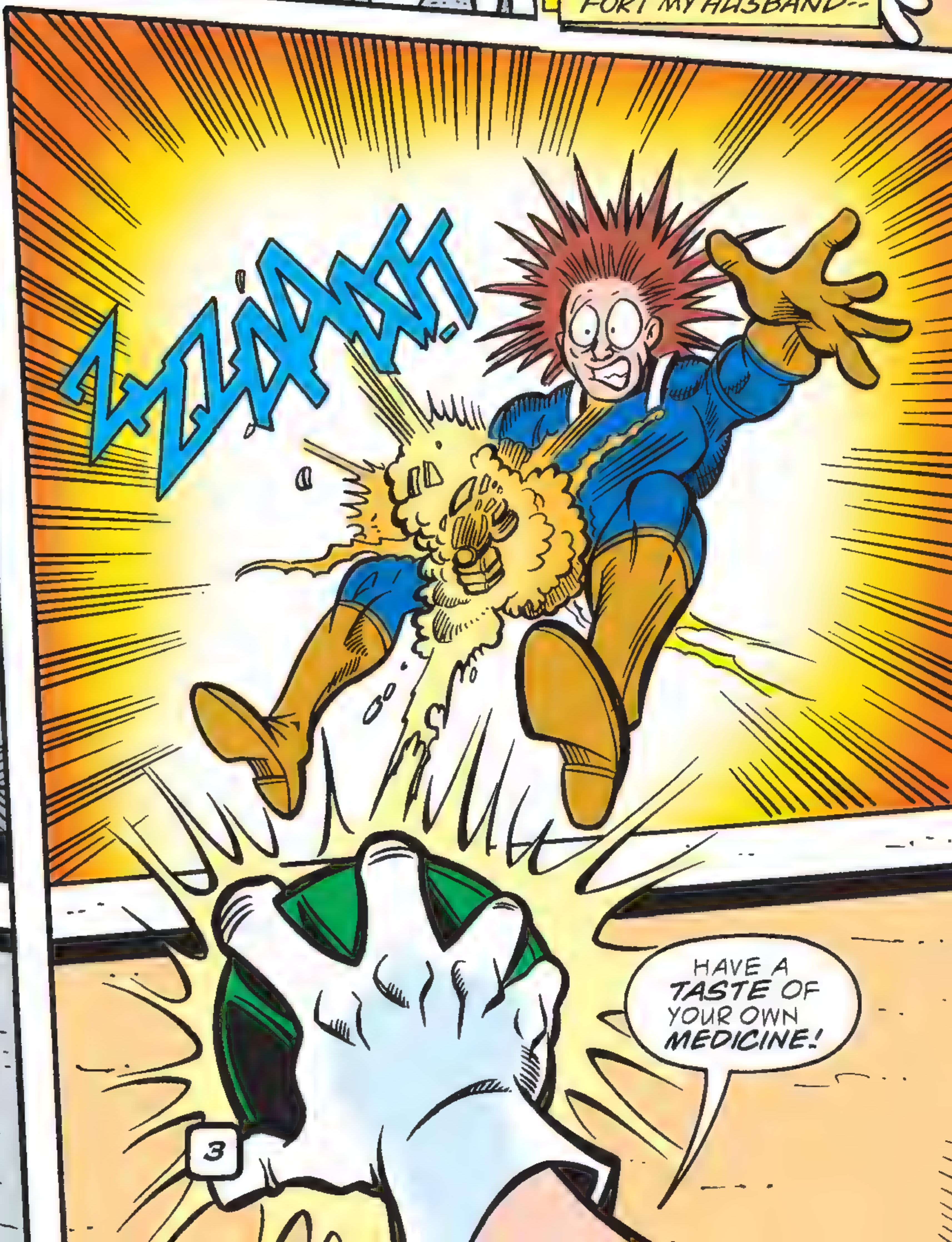
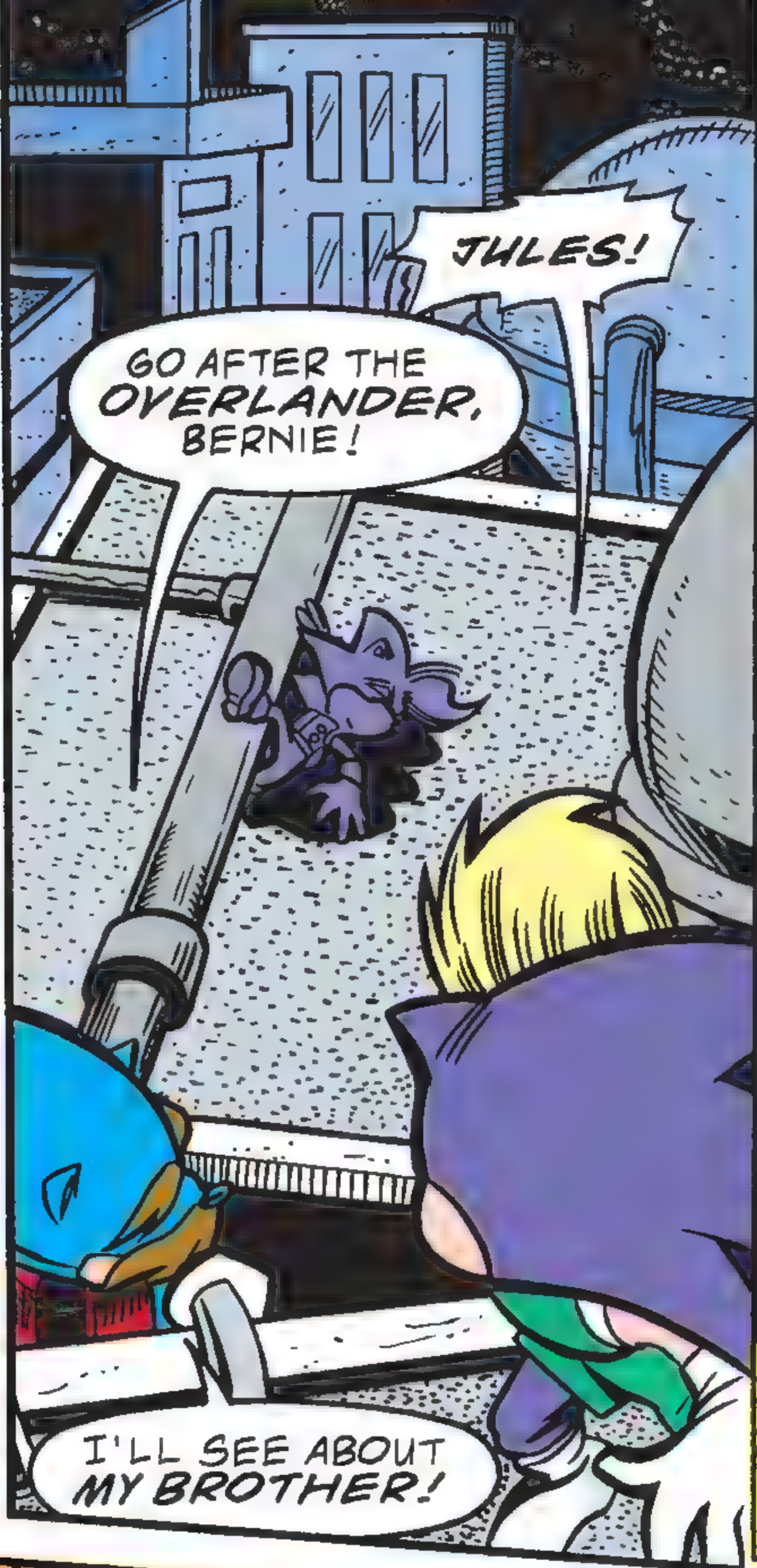
# TALES OF THE GREAT WAR

Part 5

## FOR BETTER OR WORSE...

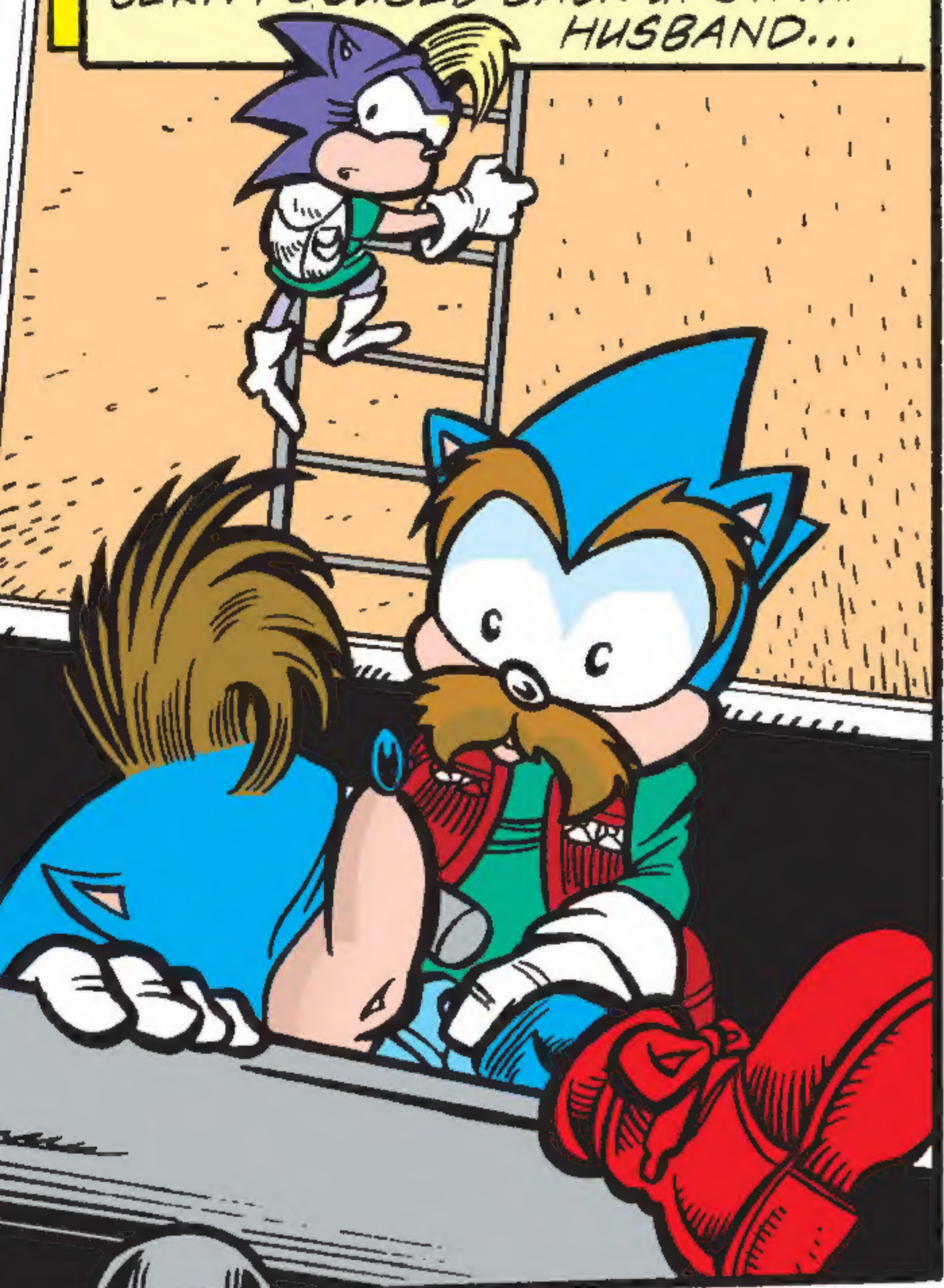
WRITTEN BY  
KEN PENDERS  
PENCILED BY  
CHRIS ALLAN  
INKED BY  
JIM AMASH  
LETTERED BY  
JEFF POWELL  
COLORED BY  
BARRY GROSSMAN  
EDITED BY  
J.F. GABRIE

JULES!



"EVEN THOUGH I HAD LOST OTHER RELATIVES AND FRIENDS DURING THE WAR, NOTHING SEEMED AS PERSONAL AS EVERYTHING DID AT THAT MOMENT.

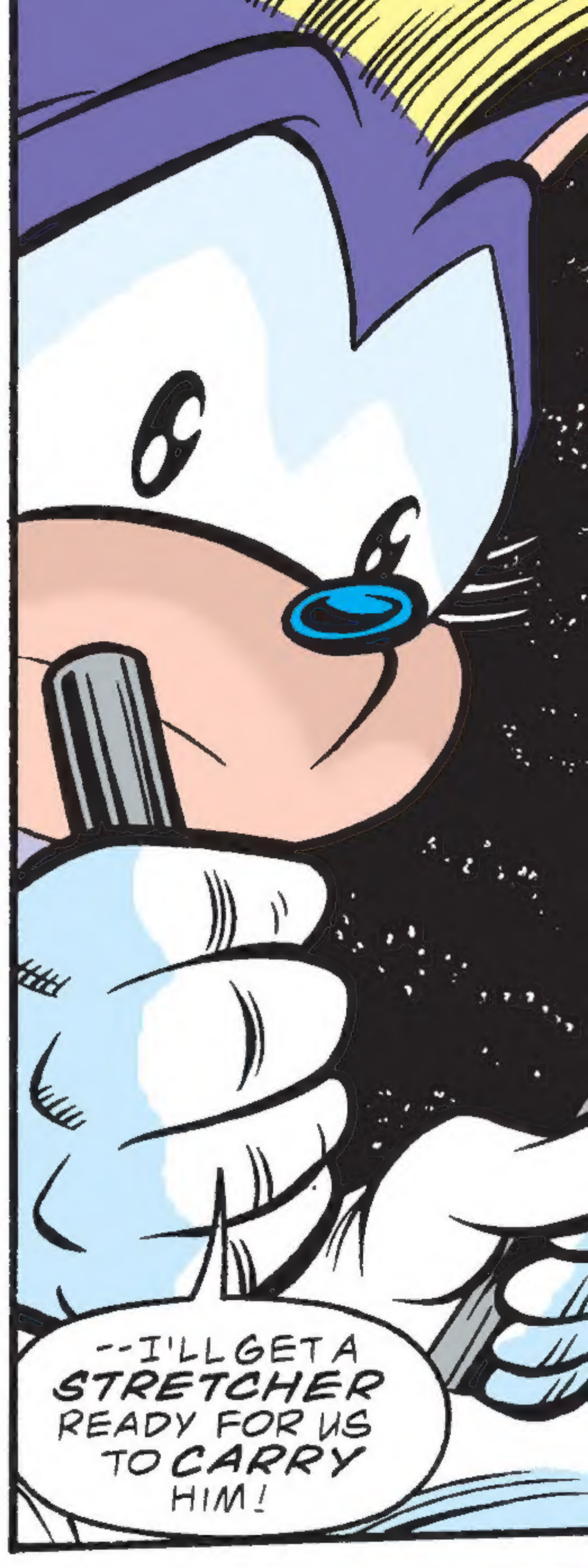
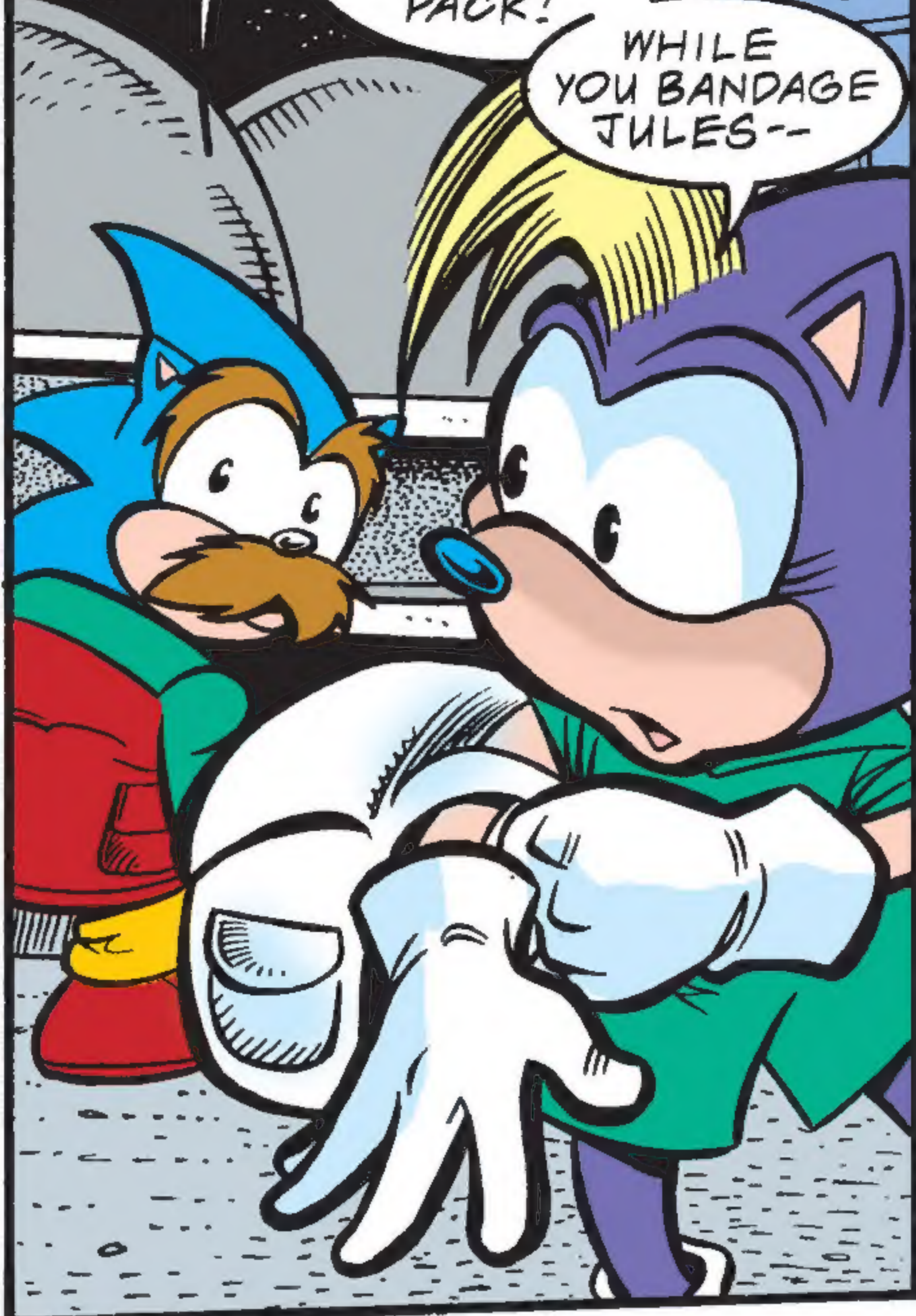
"MY RAGE LASTED ONLY A MOMENT AS MY PRIMARY CONCERN FOCUSED BACK UPON MY HUSBAND..."



HE'S STILL BREATHING BUT WE NEED SOMETHING TO STOP THE BLEEDING!

I HAVE A MEDI-KIT IN MY BACK-PACK!

WHILE YOU BANDAGE JULES--

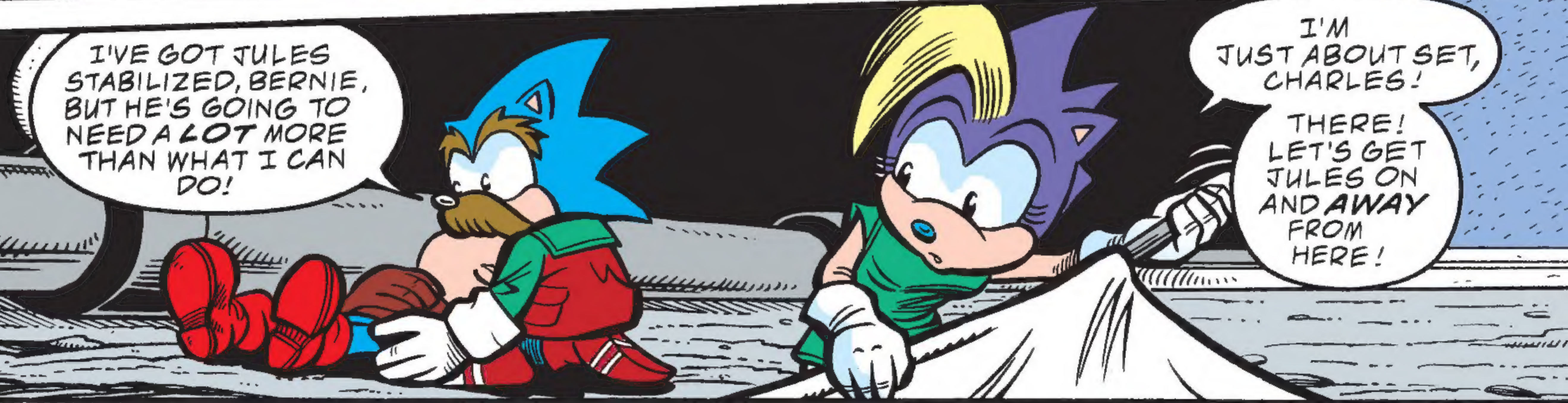


--I'LL GET A STRETCHER READY FOR US TO CARRY HIM!

I'VE GOT JULES STABILIZED, BERNIE, BUT HE'S GOING TO NEED A LOT MORE THAN WHAT I CAN DO!

I'M JUST ABOUT SET, CHARLES!

THERE! LET'S GET JULES ON AND AWAY FROM HERE!

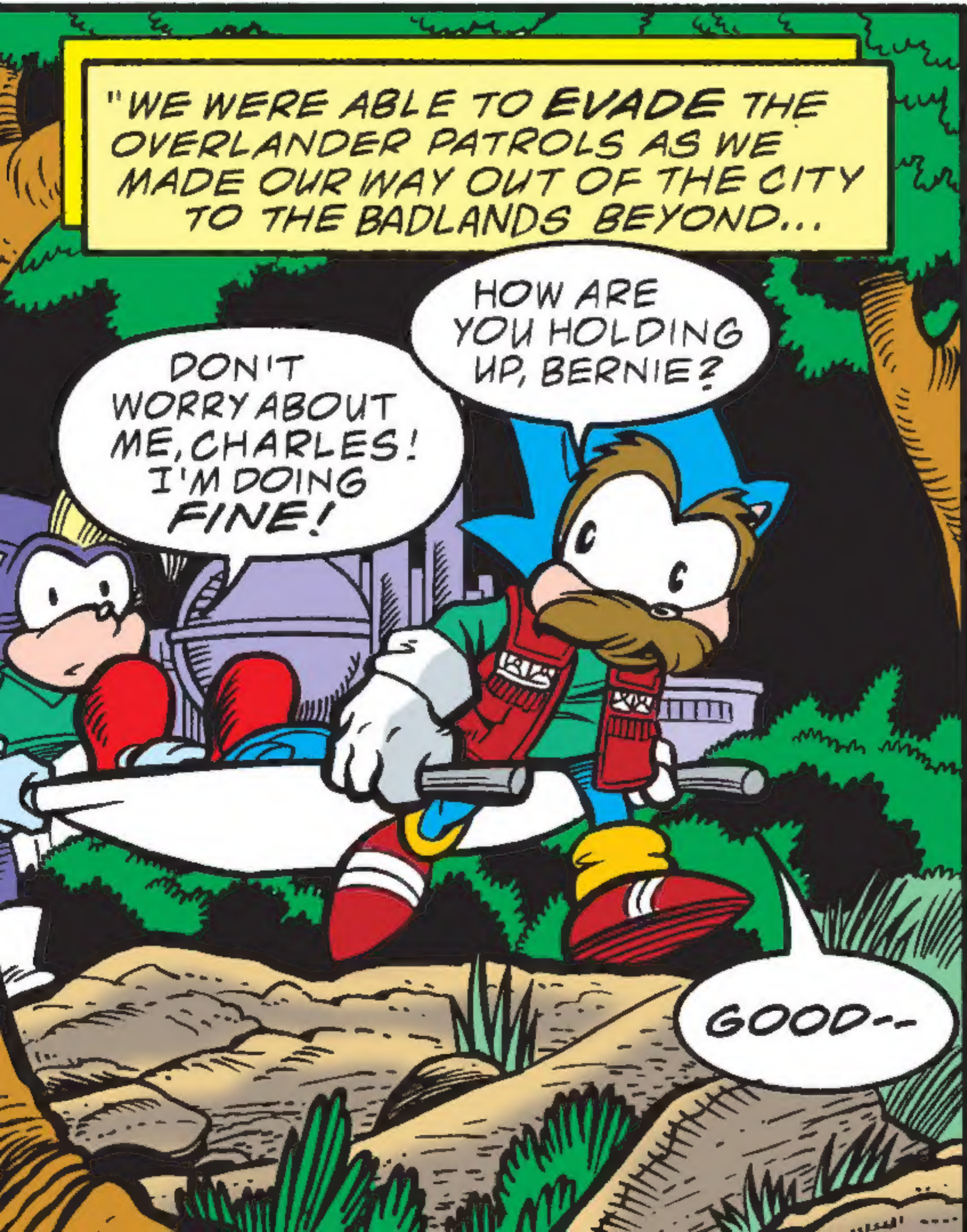


"WE WERE ABLE TO EVADE THE OVERLANDER PATROLS AS WE MADE OUR WAY OUT OF THE CITY TO THE BADLANDS BEYOND..."

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, CHARLES! I'M DOING FINE!

HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP, BERNIE?

GOOD--



--CAUSE THERE'S A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!





HERE!  
GIVE HIM  
TO ME!

EASY WITH THAT,  
AMEDEUS! IT'S A  
MIRACLE WE'VE  
GOTTEN HIM THIS  
FAR!



SHERMAN,  
YOU MANGY OLD  
COOT!

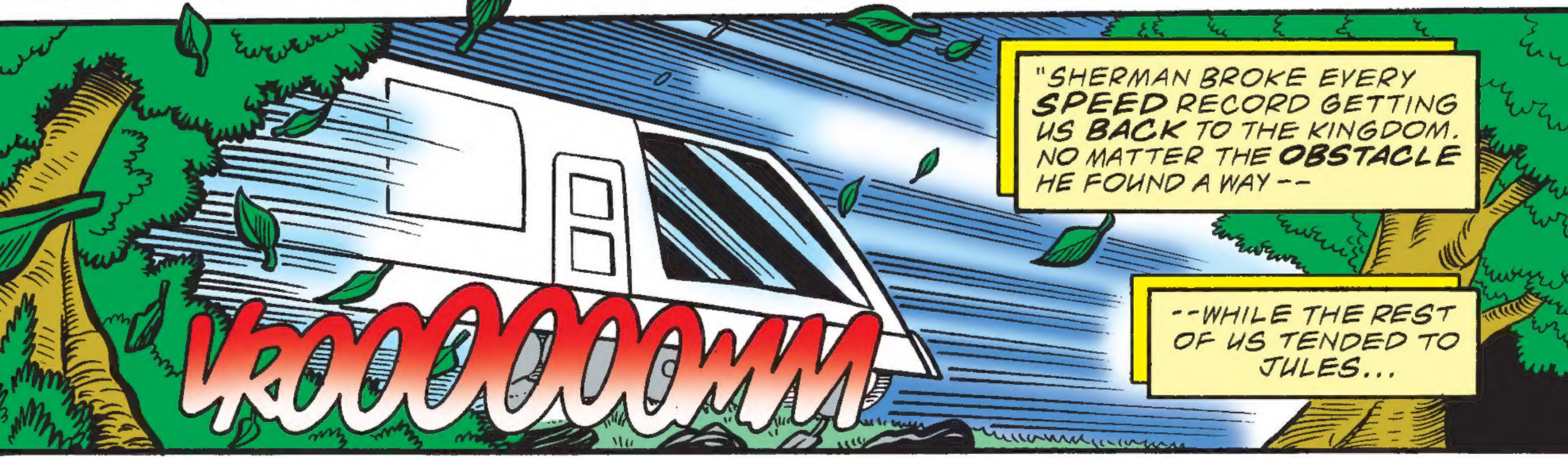
PUT THE  
PEDAL TO THE  
METAL AND GET  
US BACK TO  
MOBOTROP-  
OLIS!

AS SOON AS  
YOU SHUT THE  
HATCH--



--WE'RE  
ROLLING!

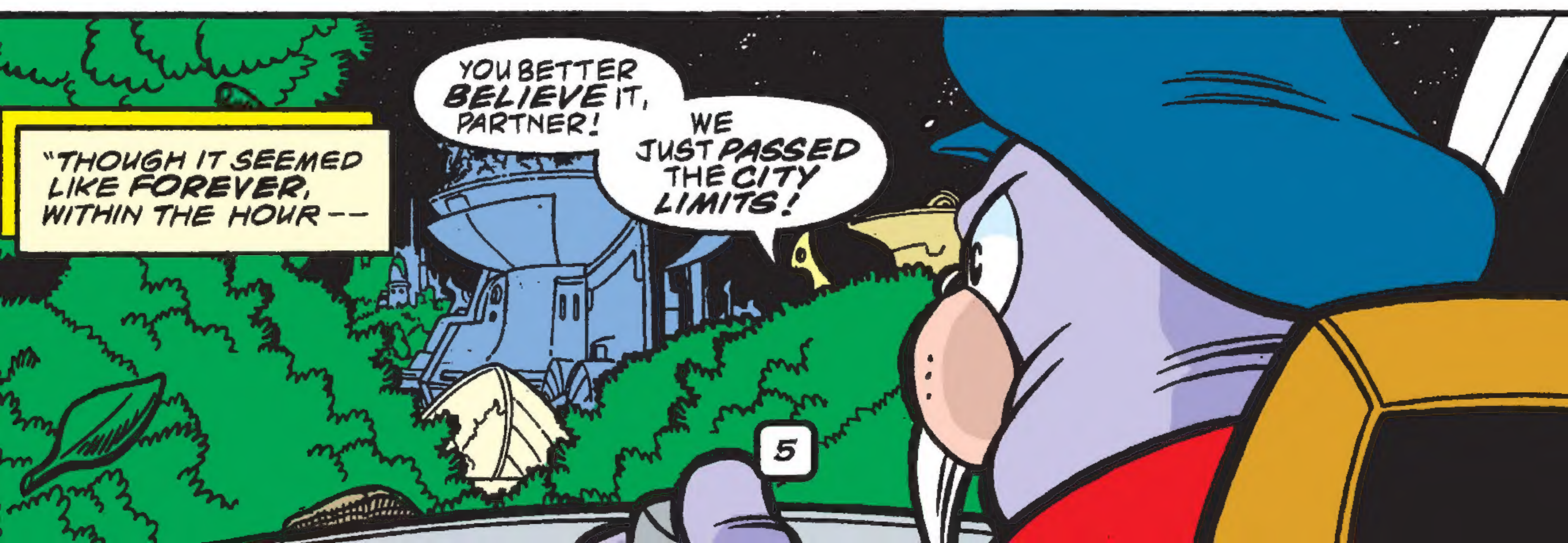
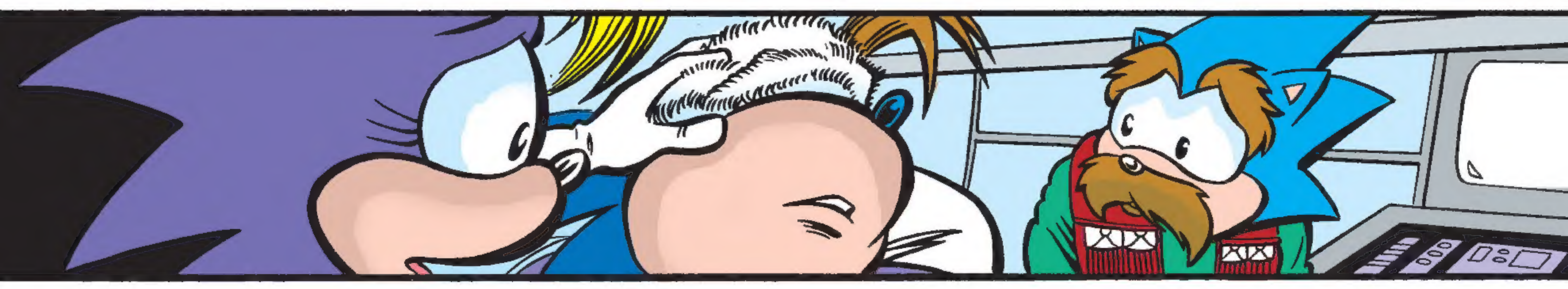
**SLAM**



**WROOOOOWWWW**

"SHERMAN BROKE EVERY  
SPEED RECORD GETTING  
US BACK TO THE KINGDOM.  
NO MATTER THE OBSTACLE  
HE FOUND A WAY --

--WHILE THE REST  
OF US TENDED TO  
JULES...



"THOUGH IT SEEMED  
LIKE FOREVER,  
WITHIN THE HOUR --

YOU BETTER  
BELIEVE IT,  
PARTNER!

WE  
JUST PASSED  
THE CITY  
LIMITS!

"JULES WAS IN THE OPERATING ROOM OF THE MOBOTROPOLIS GENERAL HOSPITAL..."

SEW HIM UP, NURSE.

I'VE DONE ALL THAT CAN BE DONE!

"WE SAT AND WAITED FOR OVER SEVEN LONG, TENSE HOURS--"

"--THAT WHEN THE DOCTOR STEPPED OUT FROM BEHIND CLOSED DOORS WE HELD OUR BREATH, HOPING FOR ANY SIGN OF REASSURANCE--"

-- ONLY TO FIND NONE WAS FORTHCOMING...

-- I'M REALLY SORRY, BERNIE--

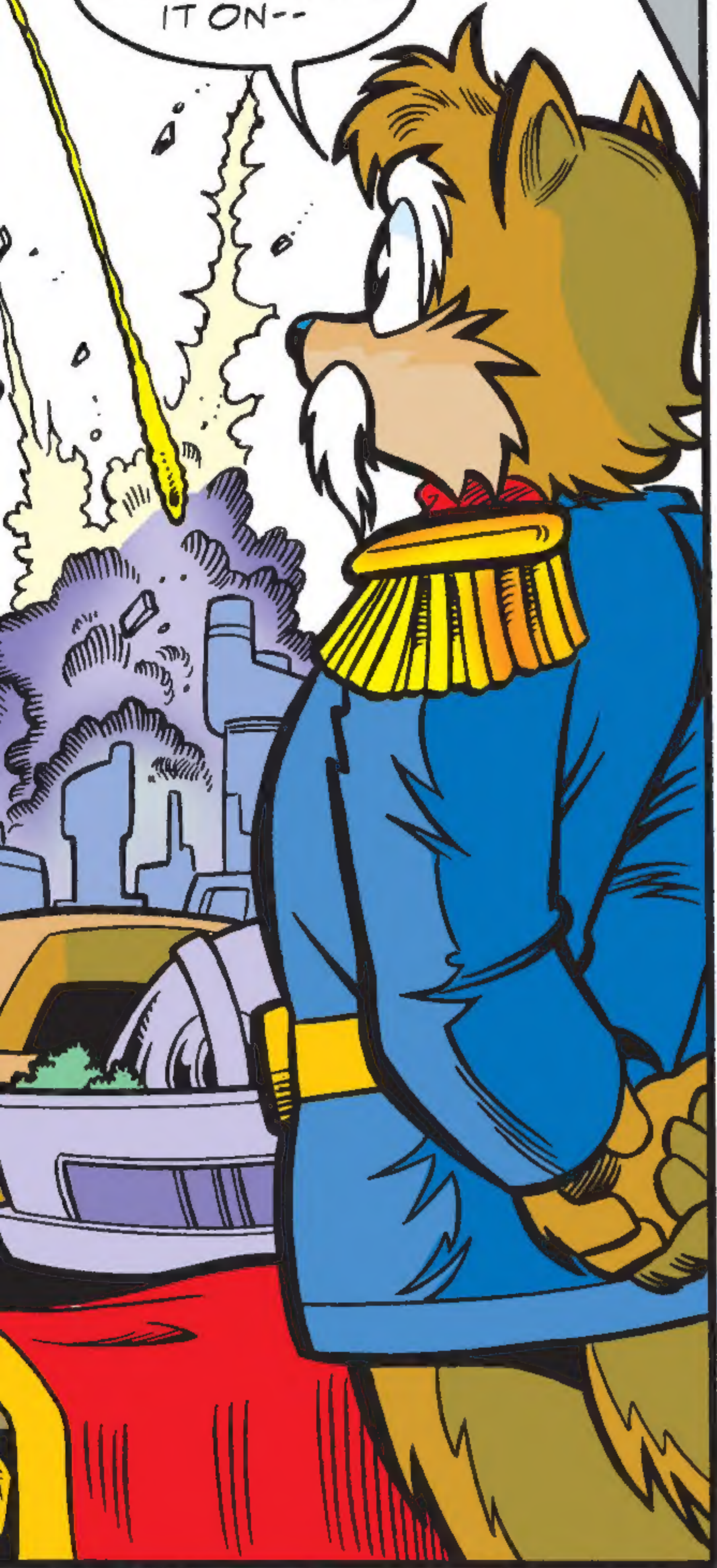
-- BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S LITTLE HOPE!

"FIGURING JULES HAD NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE, CHARLES STEPPED FORWARD WITH A DESPERATE PLEA..."

IF THERE'S ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY **NOTHING** ELSE YOU CAN DO FOR MY BROTHER--  
--WOULD YOU CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE?"

"AS CHARLES EXPLAINED WHAT HE HAD IN MIND TO THE DOCTOR, ELSEWHERE IN THE KINGDOM, THINGS WEREN'T GOING ANY BETTER..."

THEY KEEP POURING IT ON--



--AND WE FALL BACK!

WE HAVE TO MAKE A STAND--SOMETHING THAT SAYS THIS FAR AND NO FURTHER!



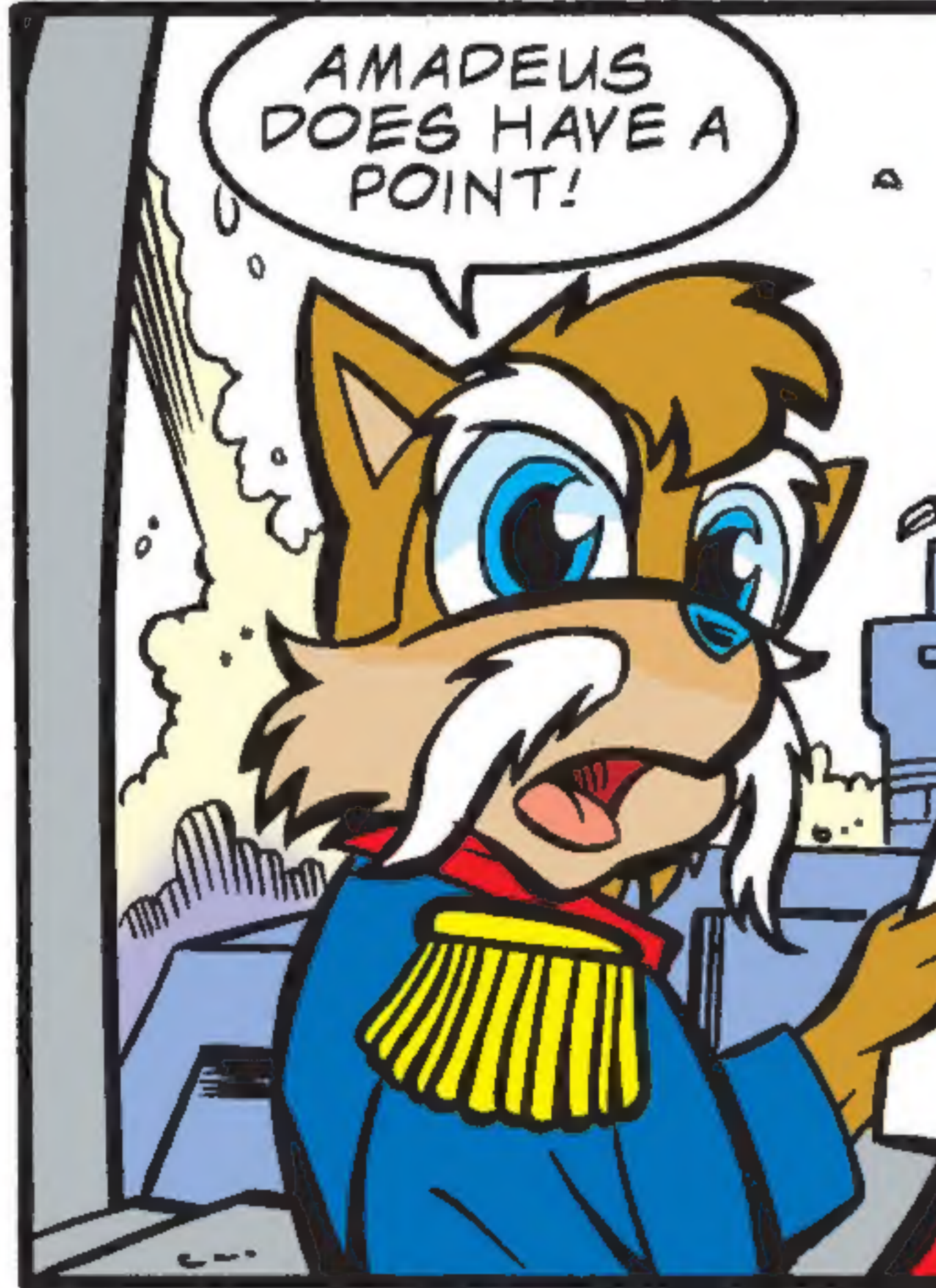
A LINE MUST BE DRAWN HERE!

BUT, SIRE, THE OVERLANDERS ARE QUITE THE IRRATIONAL SORT!



WHO'S TO SAY HOW THEY'LL REACT TO ANY ACTION WE TAKE?

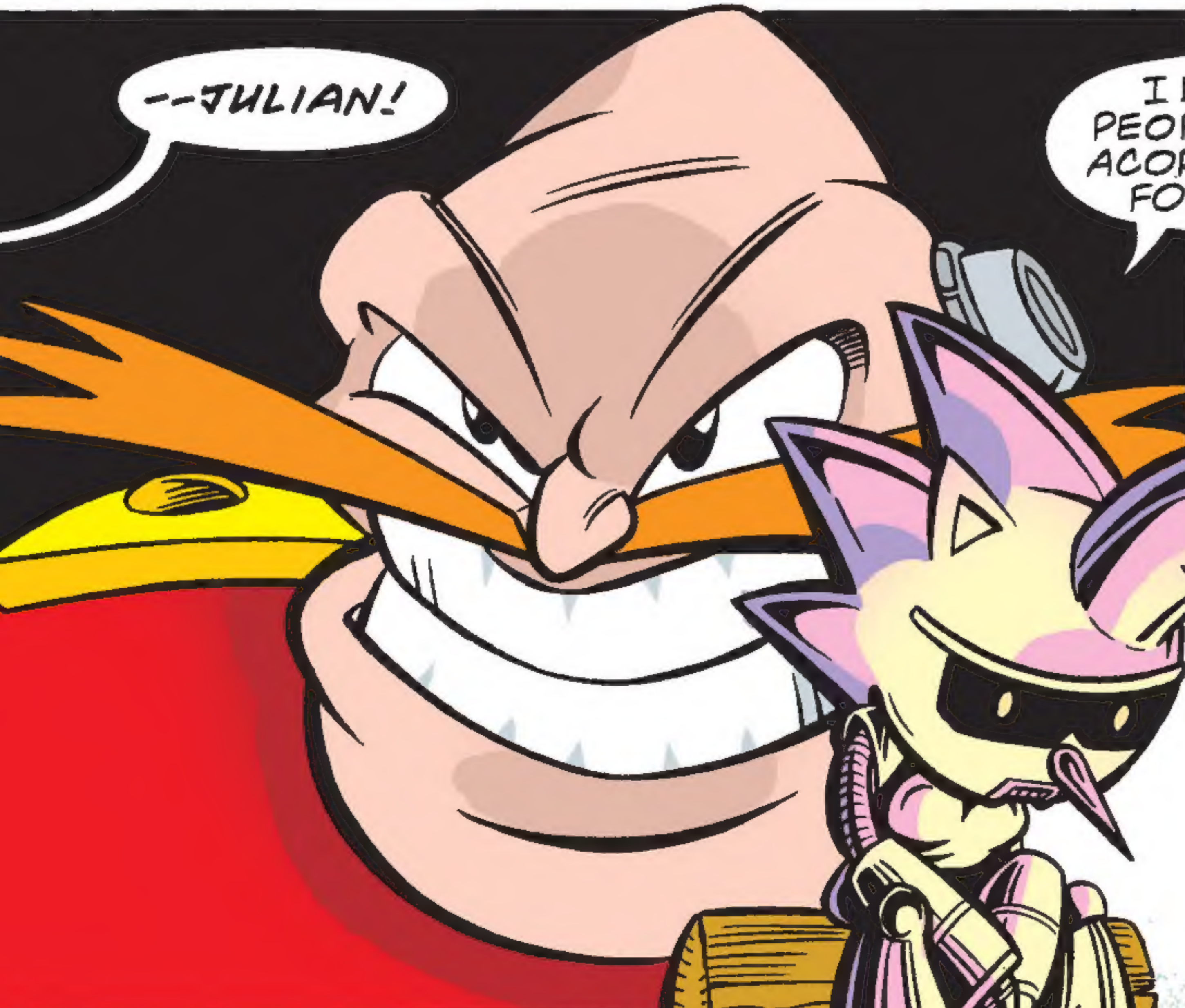
AMADEUS DOES HAVE A POINT!



YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD DO!

AFTER ALL THEY'RE YOUR PEOPLE--

--JULIAN!



I DO KNOW MY PEOPLE WELL, KING ACORN, AND I KNOW FOR A FACT--

--THAT THE OVERLANDERS WON'T REST UNTIL MOBOTROPOLIS AND ITS CITIZENS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A MEMORY!

IT SEEMED EVERYTHING WAS ABOUT TO GO FROM BAD TO WORSE!

BE HERE NEXT MONTH AS CHARLES UNVEILS HIS GREATEST SECRET AND FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!

